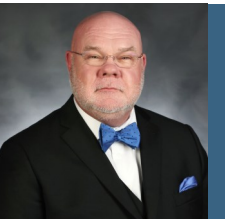


Superintendent's Message to the Community



Dear LGSUHS Community,

As I come to the end of my first year with the Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District, I continue to be in awe of our student achievements, staff dedication, and community support. This year was one of tremendous transformation. From a new engineering building at Saratoga High School to a news story on Los Gatos High School's incredible cafeteria, our students and employees continue to be a model of perseverance and unprecedented achievements.

My focus on transparent and frequent communication with you continues to be a commitment I take with me into the new school year. In the last eight months, we have shared monthly community newsletters and exciting stories about our staff and students that have been noticed not only in the Bay Area but in national news outlets. Most recently, we transitioned to a beautifully renovated district website that allows for easier navigation. This summer, our school websites will follow! If you are not a parent or student in the community, you can still receive our monthly community newsletters and exciting press releases by scanning the QR code to the right of this message.



As we begin to plan for the 2023/2024 school year, I want to reach out to you to encourage your help in bringing great people to LGSUHS! If you or someone you know might be interested in a position within the district, we are hiring for full-time, part-time, and substitute positions at both school sites and the district office, such as teachers, accounting technicians, athletic coaches, custodians, and more. See all our current openings at <https://www.edjoin.org/lgsuhdsd>.

Take a look inside to learn more about the work taking place in our district and throughout our community. We are creating this journey together, building on the many positive attributes already happening in our district. There is still so much to learn, accomplish, and celebrate.

In Partnership,

Bill W. Sanderson
Superintendent

Bi-Annual Report Summer 2023

Los Gatos High School | Saratoga High School
Post-Secondary Program



Connect With Us

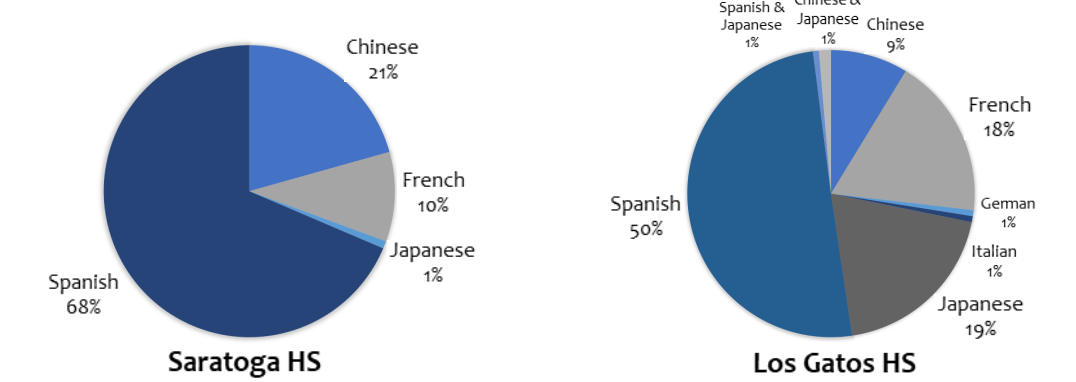


Board of Trustees

Theresa Bond | Steve Chen | Dr. Misty Davies | Alex Shultz | Katherine Tseng

Seal of Biliteracy & Civic Engagement

The State Seal of Biliteracy (SSB), marked by a gold seal on the diploma or transcript, recognizes high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing one or more languages, in addition to English. This year, the district is proud to honor 270 Seniors who have met the rigorous requirements.



In addition, the district is excited to announce that the Board of Trustees has recently approved the State Seal of Civic Engagement to be offered to Seniors beginning in the 2023/2024 school year. As one of only three districts in Santa Clara County offering this opportunity, the State Seal of Civic Engagement is awarded to students who have demonstrated excellence in civics education and participation, as well as an understanding of the US Constitution, California Constitution, and the democratic system of government. Look for more information in the coming year!

Strategic Plan Update



We are in the midst of a major, groundbreaking effort to design a strategic plan that promises to strengthen and revitalize our district and community. With the goal to engage all students in high-level learning that prepares them for success in a globalized environment, our plan is a roadmap that positions the district as a model of equity and excellence.

In May, you should have received a postcard with an opportunity to provide feedback to us on your wishes and hopes for the future of LGSUHSD. It is our goal to ensure that we have the most diverse group of educational partners to bolster and take ownership of our upcoming strategic plan.

Your feedback will be directly reflected in our areas of focus and measures of accountability. We want our community’s work and feedback to give direction to a strategic plan that will have an afterlife that will live beyond our formal meetings.

Scan the code above to visit our Strategic Planning page on our website. Here you can watch my update to the community, our recorded update to the Board on June 13, 2023, and follow our progress.



Understanding the District’s Budget & Parcel Tax

California has two types of ways that school districts are funded: **community-funded** (also known as Basic Aid) and **state funded** (formerly known as Revenue Limit). About 10% of California districts are **community-funded**, including the Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District.

A community-funded district receives the majority of its funding from local property taxes because local property taxes exceed the state’s guaranteed per-student funding amount. The state contributions to a community-funded district’s budget are minimal.

Community-funded districts receive the same level of overall funding regardless of their school district enrollment since their funding is not tied to average daily attendance at their schools.

Community-funded districts face a unique challenge because funding is unrelated to enrollment. While community-funded districts typically have relatively higher property tax bases, districts do not know what their estimated property tax revenue will be until well into the fiscal year, and future year projections are subject to volatility. As a result, community-funded districts typically maintain a reserve level higher than the state required minimum. **LGSUHSD has a board policy to maintain reserves of at least 10% of annual expenditures.**

Community-funded districts often rely on parcel taxes to supplement their budgets, since they cannot rely on state funding and cannot predict property tax revenues.

Top 3 Things to Know

- 1 **LGSUHSD’s parcel tax is \$49/parcel.**
- 2 **LGSUHSD’s parcel tax contributes less than \$1M to our \$73M budget.**
- 3 **LGSUHSD’s parcel tax expires in 2025.**

Year in Review

Scan each QR Code to read how the community, region, and beyond are celebrating the LGSUHSD district.



Los Gatos, Saratoga Students Outscore County, State Averages in Standardized Testing

Saratoga High School Student Wins International Film Competition



YMCA recognizes Los Gatos High School Teacher

Saratoga High School Student Develops Award-Winning Phone App



Chicago Restaurateur Transforms Los Gatos High School Cafeteria

Paid Summer Internships Among Prizes at Saratoga High’s ‘Hack-a-thon’



Wellness Center Supports Students Mental, Emotional Health at Los Gatos High School

Los Gatos, Saratoga Robotics Students Head to National Championships



Los Gatos-Saratoga UHSD Special Education Teacher Honored

To see more stories of celebrations and accomplishments in the district, visit www.lgsuhd.org.



The Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District provides a nurturing and structured environment where students can explore their interests, discover their talents, and develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Having these excellent schools in our towns and neighborhoods not only prepare our students for higher education and career opportunities, it positions homeowners and businesses to be a part of a sought-after community that embraces our youth and its accomplishments.

~ Moe Baniani, Real Estate Broker