**SRCS Transition Plan Updates (Outward Facing)**

**Week of 03.24.2025**

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, SRCS Staff, and Community Members,

It is important we share timely information and update you on our progress as we transition to 7-12 schools and consolidate programs. As part of our effort to ensure timely communication with our community, we will share weekly updates about this process.

Below is what we have coordinated or are working on this week:

**Communication**

- We are working on a transitions webpage that will include up-to-date information regarding our efforts in support of consolidation and transitioning some of our schools to 7-12. This webpage will feature frequently asked questions and it will be updated consistently as we work through this process.
- James Hodgman, our Public Information Officer, and several members of SRCS staff met with the Sonoma County Office of Education to determine areas for collaboration between SRCS and SCOE moving forward.
    - The 6 project areas are:
        - Demographics
        - Finance
        - Special Services
        - Communication
        - Elementary and 7-12 Transition
        - Safety support
- On March 18, we sent a Parent Square message to our community with updates on what our district is working on to support consolidation/transition.
- We are engaging with the media to support stories related to the transition including efforts to accommodate middle and high school students at our 7-12 campuses.
- We plan to provide information related to consolidation efforts in print at all our sites so anyone who may have limited access to technology can get important information.

**Education Services - Teachers and students were out this past week, however:**

- On March 18, members from Educational Services and SCOE spent the day together to collaborate on the 7-12 secondary model with experts who have successfully consolidated middle and high schools setting specific timelines, highlighting key details, and the process for implementation.
- Middle school sports will continue without disruption. The middle schools will be able to use their sporting facilities for after-school sports during the 2025-2026 school year.

    - Dr. Castro met with the middle school athletic directors and the SRCS Athletic Director, Ryan Thompson. The athletic director from Slater stated the only need to maintain regular and uninterrupted functionality for athletics would be access to facilities at Slater, and to be considerate of sports facilities when and if the site were to be used for other permits. The SRMS athletic director requested access to the site and daily transportation, due to the unique traffic conditions between SRMS and SRHS. District Leadership approved the use of middle school facilities for middle school sports. Assoc Superintendent Lisa August will follow up with specifics with respect to transportation.
- Here is a comparison of 7-12 schools in California - this comparison was compiled by a parent. It does not represent exhaustive or conclusive information on the subject.

| Empower Teams | Actions / Decisions |
|---|---|
| At MHS/HSMS | • March 27, HSMS and MHS empower teams will meet to collaborate.<br>• On the 27th the teams will decide where the middle school will be on the Montgomery campus.<br>• March 27, Monty will host an information night for incoming 7-9 graders.<br>• At the information night, Slater and Monty will highlight programs they offer and will continue to offer in the 2025-2026 school year. |
| HSMS | • The Empower Team met on March 12 to flush out their "Big Rocks" for priorities for next year. They discussed what was important for them to share with the Monty staff that makes Slater and the middle school experience unique.<br>• On March 24 Slater staff will walk Monty's campus after school to look at facilities. |
| SRHS | • Decision: The Empower Teams from SRMS and SRHS met, walked the SRHS campus, considered two options, and selected the DeSoto Building for the 7th and 8th grade students coming from SRMS. |
| Elementary | • Elementary Readiness Plan |
| Elementary | The principals of moving and receiving schools will meet to set dates for students moving schools to visit their new schools of attendance. |

**Special Services**

- Identified additional staff spaces required (e.g. school psychologists; SLPs, OT room, sensory room) on March 14.
- Informed parents of new sites for special education program classes.
- Reviewing available sites (classrooms, bathrooms, sensory rooms, exterior fencing etc.)
- Over the next two weeks, we will determine additional facilities needs (e.g. portables, bathrooms, etc.) and we will inform the Wellness and Engagement team of new sites (for parent intra/inter-district transfers).

**Business Services**

- Emanuele Bardelli and the Information and Evaluation team are collaborating with Wellness & Engagement on the intradistrict transfers. The intradistrict transfer closed on March 16, and parents have received notification of the status of their request.
- Erik Oden and the Facilities team are collaborating with the Empower teams at Santa Rosa High and Santa Rosa Middle School, Montgomery High School, and Slater Middle School.
- Erik Oden and the Facilities team are planning year two changes at Santa Rosa Middle School and Hilliard Comstock Middle School in anticipation of younger students on campus. Planning has begun on a new classroom building with a bathroom at Piner High School.
- Erik Oden and the Facilities team are continuing their support of Special Services to identify appropriate rooms for Special Ed students at elementary school sites.
- Ed Burke and the CNS team will collaborate with the empower teams regarding meal service times. Meal service periods are part of bell schedule discussions. The focus of these discussions will be appropriate separations of age range groups.
- Joel Dontos and the Fiscal Services team will hold strategic planning meetings to update Fiscal Operations for the beginning of the 2025-26 school year.

**Wellness & Engagement**

- During Spring Break, the Wellness & Engagement team processed approximately 1,200 Intradistrict Open Enrollment Transfer requests. This is about 400 more than in a normal year.
- All families were notified about the status of their Intradistrict Open Enrollment Transfers. All transfers were approved with only two exceptions. For SRHS and MCHS, we were only able to approve priorities 1-6, and all students who applied under the “all other reasons” were placed on a waiting list.
- In partnership with LandPaths and the Violence Prevention Partnership, students from our high schools participated in a snow trip to Donner Ski Ranch on March 19.
- Host the School Resilience & Rebuilding Alliance meeting on March 28th at Chop’s Teen Club, 509 Adams St, Santa Rosa, CA, 94501 from 8:00-9:00 am.
- In partnership with the Santa Rosa Police Department, we are hosting a series of workshops for families on fentanyl education and youth gang violence.

  **Workshop Dates & Locations:**

- Elsie Allen High School – March 25, 2025 | 5:30-7:30 PM
- Santa Rosa High School – March 26, 2025 | 5:30-7:00 PM
- Maria Carrillo High School – March 27, 2025 | 5:30-7:30 PM

**Human Resources**

- We completed the process of providing preliminary layoff notices to applicable Certificated and Classified employees.
- We began collecting Request for Hearing notices from employees who received preliminary layoff notices.
- Continued meeting with bargaining units to align staffing changes with contract provisions and bargain the effects and impacts of layoffs.

## Glossary

CNS: Child Nutrition Services

HSMS: Herbert Slater Middle School

MCHS: Maria Carrillo High School

OT: Occupational Therapy

SCOE: Sonoma County Office of Education

SRCS: Santa Rosa City Schools

SRHS: Santa Rosa High School

SRMS: Santa Rosa Middle School

MHS: Montgomery High School

SLPs: Speech Language Pathologist