SRCS Transition Plan Updates

Week of 03.31.2025

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

We must 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 will share updates on our consolidation/transition efforts through articles, social media posts, Parent Square messages, infographics, and videos.
- Our transition/consolidation webpage is live on our website. It has been shared on social media and Parent Square and highlighted during the March 26 Board meeting. The page will be updated regularly. We encourage the public to submit questions about consolidation/transition to 7-12 campuses through this webpage.
- We will send the consolidation/transition updates weekly via Parent Square. We will also send that information to each school via email so that staff can provide printed copies of the updates to families in English and Spanish.
- James Hodgman, our Public Information Officer, and several members of SRCS staff met with the Sonoma County Office of Education on March 27 to discuss how we can continue working together to serve our community best.

Education Services -

Empower Teams	Actions / Decisions

At MHS/HSMS	• Held our first joint Empower Team meeting at Montgomery
	  ○ Slidedeck
	• Slater's culinary elective will continue to be offered at Montgomery. We are finalizing the location. At this time, we have scheduled it for room 4.
	• The team reviewed four options and almost unanimously voted to designate the 60s, 80s, and the bottom of the new building as the space for 7th and 8th graders.
	• The bottom floor of the new building has two science labs and bathrooms, which will be used by 7th and 8th graders.
	  ○ MHS Transition Map
	• Each team welcomed one another, prioritized students' needs in the decision-making process, acknowledged the challenges faced at each site, and remained collaborative throughout the day.
	• Montgomery held an information night for incoming 6th—and 7th-grade students. Staff from both sites were present, and several shared what the middle school experience is and will continue to be, programs that will be offered as a 7-12 continuum, and other electives offered when the students become 9th graders.
	• Our next meeting will be on April 8th; it will be a full day.

SRHS/SRMS	• SRHS map with Middle School location indicator and restrooms
	• Executive Director Dr. Perez from Ed Services, SRHS Principal Dr. Fong, AP Finnerty, and SRMS Principal Dr. O'Conner meet weekly. They met on March 27 to review key dates and critical issues.
	• Key Dates in April
	  ○ Coffee with the Principals on April 8.
	  ○ The next SRHS/SRMS Empower Team full-day meeting is on April 16.
	  ○ Panther Cub Night is on April 17.

Hidden Valley	These upcoming evening events will be **FREE to all families**: • May 9th: Student Leadership Family Fun Night • May 22nd: Ice Cream Social/Book Swap • Movie Night, Date to be determined Will be working as a staff to make the first draft of classes on April 4.

Special Services

- Finalize facilities needs: Sites have been selected for special education program classes; however, we need to finish designating specific classrooms and rooms for specialists such as speech therapists.
- District-wide parent night for parents of special education students: We plan to host this event on April 22 in the evening. Details will be released soon.
- We decided to delay the move of Lewis Early Learning Academy preschool classes by one year due to facility adjustment needs for preschool students (bathrooms).
- We are collaborating with SCOE and SELPA on special education topics related to school consolidations and the relocation of special education program classes—the first meeting has been held.
- Planning for mild/moderate special education classrooms - reviewing enrollment numbers, as well as students transitioning from our feeder districts, to ensure appropriate staffing.

Business Services

- Erik Oden and the team will secure more recycling and trash dumpsters for sites as we approach the end of the year, which will help clean rooms after they are packed.
- Erik Oden and Kelley Cook are working to ensure we have all the proper materials and procedures to prepare for the upcoming moves.
- Erik Oden met with the Empower Teams at Montgomery HS, toured areas of the campus, and answered questions from the team to determine the best places to house the 7/8th graders on campus. The Montgomery HS Empower Team has settled on the first floor of the new building, with restrooms and 15 portables at the back of campus.
- Planning for a Piner HS 7/8th grade area is also underway, as we collaborate with a design team and the site staff on a solution.
- Planning is underway to add new restrooms at the Albert Biella Elementary School site to allow the move from Lewis Early Education Academy and Steele Lane Elementary in 2026.
- Planning is underway for TK/K rooms at sites to accommodate the influx of students.
- **This is repeated from last week**: Erik Oden and the facilities team continue to work with the site Empower Teams at SRHS/SRMS and MHS/HSMS to find appropriate spaces for everyone.
    - Facilities are working with SPED to finalize the classrooms' locations. We are also planning for year two moves, including TK/K buildings at SRMS and Comstock and a new classroom building with bathrooms for PHS.
- Kelley Cook is procuring boxes and other materials/supplies for teacher moves and school site consolidation. Additional considerations and support will be available for moving specialized programs such as VAPA and CTE. She is working with Erik Oden and the Facilities team on moving logistics. The Facilities Department will present an item to the Board on April 9th for the consideration and approval of qualified moving services companies. The companies on the list can provide comprehensive moving services for various SRCS projects or summer moves as needed. Kelley is coordinating

the placement of additional dumpsters (for waste and recycling) at sites significantly impacted by school consolidations/closures.
- Joel Dontos and the Fiscal Team are preparing the annual budget workbook documents for the new school configurations, which will be available by mid-April.
- Adrian Bica and the Information Technology Team are collecting the requirements for the Walkie-Talkie distribution at each site and developing a plan for district-wide radio connectivity.
- Emmanuel Bardeli and the Information and Evaluation team have completed their school consolidation transition planning assignments. The team supports other departments and school sites with communications related to the transition process.
- 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 district and site staff are committed to providing students adequate time to eat their lunches with their appropriate age range group.

Wellness & Engagement

We will focus on the following over the next week:

- Continued work with finalizing the Intra and Inter District transfer requests, working with families on the waitlist.

Human Resources

We will focus on the following over the next week:

- Meet with CSEA representatives to bargain the effects and impacts of layoffs.
- Review Short Masters and scheduled meetings with school sites.
- Continue meeting with SRTA to finalize the “IMPACTS AND EFFECTS OF SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION AND CLOSURE TRANSITION” MOU.

Glossary

CNS: Child Nutrition Services

CSEA: Classified School Employees Association

CTE: Career Technical Education

HS: High School

HSMS: Herbert Slater Middle School

MHS: Montgomery High School

MOU: Memorandum of Understanding

OT: Occupational Therapy

PHS: Piner High School

SELPA: Special Education Local Plan Area

SCOE: Sonoma County Office of Education

SLPs: Speech Language Pathologists

SRCS: Santa Rosa City Schools

SPED: Special Education Department

SRHS: Santa Rosa High School

SRMS: Santa Rosa Middle School

SRTA: Santa Rosa Teachers Association

TK/K: Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten

VAPA: Visual and Performing Arts