



Project Career Map 2025 - 2027

UNLOCKING STUDENT AGENCY AS THEY
EXPLORE HIGHER EDUCATION AND A CAREER IN THE SCIENCES



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OUR EDUCATION FOUNDATION



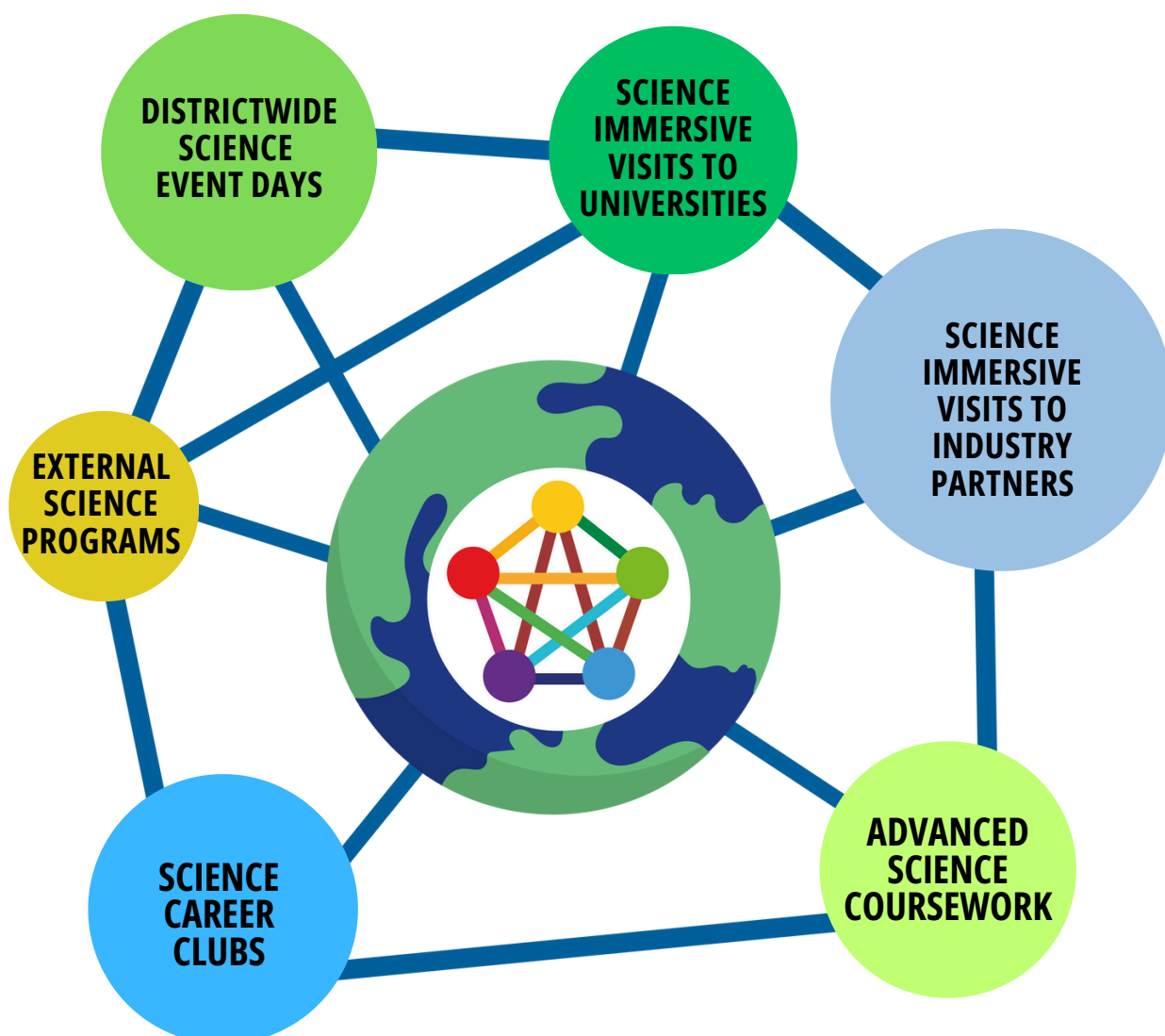
The San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation (SMFC EdFund) was founded in 1989 in response to the growing disparity in equity and opportunity within our San Mateo-Foster City School District (SMFCSD) due in part to decreased state funding caused by the passage of Proposition 13. It has been clearly established that better funded schools give more students pathways to success. Understanding that the schools in our district were not being equally financially supported, the SMFC EdFund's goal was to secure funding so all the district schools had the money needed to create equal opportunity for students, regardless of where the school was located. Since then, the SMFC EdFund has continued its mission to identify unmet needs within the district and close the disparity so all the schools in our district excel, as a district. Together with grantors and our generous community, the SMFC EdFund has granted more than \$8.7 million to the SMFCSD to support districtwide programs such as music, art, literacy, STEM education, and after-school athletics.



PROJECT CAREER MAP

UNDERSTANDING CAREERS IN SCIENCE

THROUGH SELF-REFLECTION, SMFCSD STUDENTS WILL APPROACH SCIENCE CAREERS WITH CURIOSITY. STUDENTS WILL IDENTIFY STRENGTHS, INTERESTS, AND VALUES AS THEY LEARN TO TELL THEIR STORIES AND EXPLORE POSSIBLE SCIENCE CAREER JOURNEYS.



CAREER FIELDS INTRODUCED TO STUDENTS

SCIENCES



AGRICULTURE
SCIENCE



Biology



BIOTECHNOLOGY



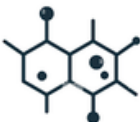
Cell Biology



HEALTHCARE



MICROBIOLOGY



MOLECULAR BIOLOGY



NEUROSCIENCE



PHARMACOLOGY

ENGINEERING



BIOENGINEERING



CHEMICAL



BIOMEDICAL

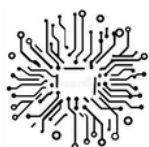


MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING



INDUSTRIAL
ENGINEERING

INFORMATION TECH



COMPUTER SCIENCE



INFORMATICS



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

OUR NEW STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

At the San Mateo-Foster City School District, we seek to pursue new, innovative ways to introduce all students to exciting science-based career fields. Our students learn that science is important because it helps us solve problems and make new discoveries. Every day, scientists work hard to understand how things work. But how can our 10 to 14 years olds see themselves as future scientists? Choosing a science career can be an amazing journey. When it comes to science career paths, there are so many exciting options for adolescents to think about! Each path can lead to amazing adventures and discoveries. We want our students to explore careers that spark their interest and challenge them to learn new things.

Introducing pre-teens to science careers can ignite their curiosity and inspire them to explore the vast opportunities in the field. Here's our step-by-step guide to effectively engage this age group with science-related careers.

Districtwide Science Excursions

Monthly Science-Focused Field Trips

- **University Field Trips:** We will develop science-focused university trips tailored to regional partners (including San Francisco State University, San Jose State University, Stanford University, and UC Berkeley).
- **Industry Field Trips:** We will arrange visits to research labs, tech companies, or hospitals to observe professionals in action.
- **Explore Nature:** We will take SMFC students to regional parks, zoo, and observatories.

Districtwide Science Event Days

Annual Fall District Science Expedition

The district will secure industry sector practitioners to lead one hour Q/A session with our participating students. The session will introduce students to the scientist, their story, their work flow, and their plans for the future. Students will create a Science Career Spotlights presentation highlighting the science career field and explain how the science career contributes to public benefit or helps solve global challenges, like climate change or curing diseases. Our students will display their Science Career Spotlight and conduct fun, interactive experiments on our Middle School campuses. We'll provide the unique science kits and/or projects that will allow adolescents to demonstrate their scientific curiosity and experimentation at the event.

OUR NEW STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

Increased Participation in External Science Programs

Camps and Academies

- Arrange enrollment for 50 SMFC students to annually participate in TinkerTech's fun STEM camps.
- Arrange enrollment for 50 SMFC students to annually participate in Celsius and Beyond's science camps.

Science Career Clubs

- Initiate the SMFC Middle School Science Night. The event would be planned entirely by adolescents to introduce their peers to science.

Connecting SMFC Students to STEM Professionals

Providing adolescents with relatable examples of successful STEM professionals - who show them that STEM careers are achievable - is of utmost importance. Exposure to diverse STEM fields will help our students discover career paths they might not have considered. Some examples of college-level connections we will establish are:

- Black in Physics (BIP) @ Stanford is a graduate-student organized group of Black undergraduates, graduate students, and postdocs in Physics.
- Stanford SBSE is geared towards the successful recruitment, retention and graduation of talented and enthusiastic Black scientists and engineers.
- The Black Pre-Medical Organization (SBPO) for African-American students in pre-med classes.
- El Centro Chicano y Latino is a hub for the Chicane/Latine/Hispanic community on Stanford campus.
- Stanford Latino is an undergraduate, student-led organization that strives to prepare and position Latin American Stanford students for leadership by providing them with the necessary training, guidance, and resources, while making them part of a large international network.

UNRIVALED COLLEGE & CAREER EXPOSURE

The proposed \$485,000 Project Understanding Grant would create the most comprehensive Science Career Initiative of any school district in existence. STEM occupations are among the highest-paying and contribute significantly to our regional workforce.

Product	Schools & Students Served	Description
SCIENCE IMMERSIVE COLLEGE & INDUSTRY VISITS	All SMFCSD 5TH-8TH GRADE STUDENTS	EACH MONTH, THE SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TOSA WILL COORDINATE AN INDUSTRY AND A COLLEGE VISIT FOR 120 STUDENTS IN GRADES 5-8. THE SCIENCE FOCUSED UNIVERSITY TRIPS WILL BE TAILORED TO REGIONAL PARTNERS (INCLUDING STANFORD UNIVERSITY, UC BERKELEY, SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY, AND SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY). VISITS TO RESEARCH LABS, TECH COMPANIES, OR HOSPITALS WILL ALLOW STUDENTS TO OBSERVE PROFESSIONALS IN ACTION.
SMFC SCIENCE MENTORS	All SMFCSD 6TH-8TH GRADE STUDENTS	EACH MONTH, THE SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TOSA WILL COORDINATE MENTORSHIP EVENTS WHERE OUR STUDENTS WILL PAIR WITH RELATABLE EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL STEM PROFESSIONALS. ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE ONSITE 1-ON-1 MEETINGS, GROUP MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND COMMUNITY-BUILDING EVENTS.
SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TOSA	ALL SMFCSD ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOLS	DEDICATED AND SPECIALIZED TEACHER ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC TRAINING ON THE INTERACTIVE LABS. TEACHERS COLLABORATE IN GROUPS AND DRIVE THEIR OWN PROGRESS THROUGH CAREFULLY-STRUCTURED, HANDS-ON, MINDS-ON MATERIALS, ENSURING TEACHERS ARE PREPARED TO INITIATE PROGRAM LESSONS IMMEDIATELY.
SCIENCE CAMPS &	ALL SMFCSD ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	EACH MONTH, THE SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TOSA WILL ARRANGE ENROLLMENT FOR 50 SMFC STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN EXTERNAL SCIENCE CAMPS. PROGRAM PROVIDERS WILL INCLUDE TINKERTECH, CELSIUS AND BEYOND, GALLILEO, AND OTHERS.
SCIENCE CAREER CLUBS	ALL SMFCSD MIDDLE SCHOOLS	EACH MONTH, THE SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TOSA WILL FACILITATE SCIENCE CAREER CLUBS. THESE CLUBS WILL CREATE COMMUNITY AMONG OUR STUDENTS AND LEAD TO THE INITIATION OF THE SMFC TEEN SCIENCE NIGHT. THE EVENT WOULD BE PLANNED ENTIRELY BY TEENS TO INTRODUCE PEERS TO SCIENCE.



UNRIVALED COLLEGE & CAREER EXPOSURE

The proposed \$500,000 Project Career Map Grant would create the most comprehensive Science Career Initiative of any school district in existence. STEM occupations are among the highest-paying and contribute significantly to our regional workforce. To get SMFCSD students on track for STEM careers, they have to start early. This grant provides science immersive college trips, industry-sector trips, districtwide science events, unique science mentorship opportunities, and districtwide science career clubs.

PRODUCT	SCHOOLS & STUDENTS SERVED	DESCRIPTION	25-26 COST	26-27 COST
SCIENCE IMMERSIVE COLLEGE & INDUSTRY VISITS	ALL SMFCSD 5TH-8TH GRADE STUDENTS	<p>SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TEACHER ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT (TOSA) WILL COORDINATE INDUSTRY AND COLLEGE VISIT FOR 120 STUDENTS IN GRADES 5-8. THE SCIENCE-FOCUSED TRIPS WILL BE TAILORED TO REGIONAL PARTNERS (INCLUDING SJSU, SFSU, AND CAL BERKELEY).</p> <p>THE VISITS TO RESEARCH LABS, TECH COMPANIES, OR HOSPITALS WILL ALLOW STUDENTS TO OBSERVE PROFESSIONALS IN ACTION. EACH INDUSTRY VISIT WILL RESULT IN STUDENTS COMPLETING A VIDEO JOURNAL DOCUMENTING THEIR REFLECTIONS ON THE EXPERIENCE WHICH WILL BE ADDED TO THE STUDENT'S CAREER MAP.</p>	\$60,000	\$50,000
SMFC SCIENCE MENTORS	ALL SMFCSD 6TH-8TH GRADE STUDENTS	<p>EACH MONTH, THE SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TOSA WILL HOLD MENTORSHIP EVENTS WHERE OUR STUDENTS WILL PAIR WITH RELATABLE EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL STEM PROFESSIONALS. ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE ON-SITE 1-ON-1 MEETINGS, GROUP MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND COMMUNITY BUILDING EVENTS. EACH MENTORSHIP EVENT WILL RESULT IN STUDENTS COMPLETING A WRITTEN JOURNAL DOCUMENTING THEIR REFLECTIONS IN THE STUDENT'S CAREER MAP.</p>	\$10,000	\$10,000

UNRIVALED COLLEGE & CAREER EXPOSURE

PRODUCT	SCHOOLS & STUDENTS SERVED	DESCRIPTION	25-26 COST	26-27 COST
SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TOSA	ALL SMFCSD ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOLS	DEDICATED AND SPECIALIZED TEACHER ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC TRAINING ON THE INTERACTIVE LABS. TEACHERS COLLABORATE IN GROUPS AND DRIVE THEIR OWN PROGRESS THROUGH CAREFULLY-STRUCTURED, HANDS-ON, ENGAGING MATERIALS. THE TOSA WILL ENSURE TEACHERS ARE PREPARED TO INITIATE PROGRAM LESSONS	\$142,500	\$120,000
SCIENCE CAMPS	ALL SMFCSD ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TOSA WILL ARRANGE ENROLLMENT FOR 50 SMFC STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN EXTERNAL SCIENCE CAMPS. PROGRAM PROVIDERS WILL INCLUDE TINKERTECH, CELSIUS AND BEYOND, CAMP GALILEO, AND OTHERS. EACH SCIENCE CAMP EXPERIENCE WILL RESULT IN STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN A POST-CAMP EVENT HELD AT THE DISTRICT TO UPLIFT THEIR EXPERIENCE AND CELEBRATE THE DEPTH OF ENGAGEMENT.	\$70,000	\$70,000
SCIENCE CAREER CLUBS	ALL SMFCSD MIDDLE SCHOOLS	EACH MONTH, THE SCIENCE CAREERS AND CURRICULUM TOSA WILL FACILITATE SCIENCE CAREER CLUBS. THESE CLUBS WILL CREATE COMMUNITY AMONG OUR STUDENTS AND LEAD TO THE INITIATION OF THE SMFC MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE NIGHT. THE EVENT WOULD BE PLANNED ENTIRELY BY ADOLESCENTS TO INTRODUCE PEERS TO SCIENCE.	\$25,000	\$20,000
		ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS: 10%	\$33,500	\$30,000
TOTAL			\$370,000	\$300,000