

COMMUNITY REPORT



SAN MATEO-
FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear San Mateo-Foster City Community,



A demanding but productive school year has drawn to a close. As we move into summer break, it is fitting to take a moment to appreciate our school community and reflect on our progress over the year.

To the families of eighth graders, I send you warm congratulations and wish you well in high school.

I also want to recognize each of our staff members for the talent, energy and care they bring to their work and to wish our retirees all the best in their next endeavors. Their service and dedication to our students and community will be appreciated for years to come.

A thank you is also due to many family and community members who volunteered at our schools and provided needed resources for our programs throughout the year. We could not provide such high quality programming without their support.

MEASURE X FACILITIES

We are full steam ahead with our Phase 1 projects which include a new elementary school in Foster City, the gyms and classrooms at Abbott and Borel Middle Schools, and a gym at the Bayside Academy. Phase 2 projects are slated to begin in 2019 and include replacing and adding classrooms at Bowditch Middle School, new classrooms and multipurpose rooms at Sunnybrae and George Hall Elementary Schools and a new neighborhood elementary school on the undeveloped portion of the College Park/Turnbull campus. Follow our progress on the Measure X page of the SMFCSD website.

BAYSIDE ACADEMY/PARKSIDE MONTESSORI

The STEAM/STEM K-8 conversion is complete at the Bayside Academy. This school will offer a K-8 STEAM/STEM program starting this fall. Along with the Bayside conversion, Parkside Montessori will be expanded to a full Montessori magnet school that will offer a TK-5th grade program starting in fall. This school will grow to a TK-8th grade program over the next few years.

SPECIAL MEETING: PARCEL TAX, BUDGET STUDY & SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION SESSION

On Thursday, June 8, 2017 Trustees for the San Mateo-Foster City School District held a special meeting to review the budget shortfall created by the loss of the Measure Y Parcel Tax and escalating STRS and PERS costs. This structural deficit must be addressed, as a balanced, three-year budget must be submitted to the San Mateo County Office of Education for approval. Trustees examined reductions that will be made in the 2017-2018 year as well as potential reductions needed in the 2018-2020 years. They also examined potential revenue enhancements over the same three year period.

A renewed effort to pass a parcel tax was discussed by the Trustees with the parent and community members who were in attendance that evening. As you know, Measure Y was narrowly defeated by a 1.47% margin. The District thanks our volunteers and those who came out in support of the Measure for bringing it so close to renewal. Further discussions regarding a ballot measure will be placed on upcoming Board agendas.

The evening ended with an opportunity for the assembled group to learn more about becoming a School Board Trustee. This November 2017, three of the present Trustees on the San Mateo-Foster City School Board have decided not to run for re-election. If you were not able to attend the Candidate Forum and have questions about the process, please contact our Board President, Chelsea Bonini, or any member of the Board of Trustees. Additionally, if you would like to know more about the work of the District, you can contact me at jrosas@smfcsd.net. I would be happy to discuss our special projects with you!

Thank you for your devotion, individually and collectively, to our schools as we educate and inspire students to live, lead, and learn with integrity and joy. Best wishes for your summer!

Sincerely,

Joan Rosas, Ed.D., Superintendent

CALENDAR

Thur. August 10
School Board Meeting
7:00 PM

Tue. August 15
First Day of School

Thur. August 24
School Board Meeting
7:00 PM

September 1- 4
Labor Day Holiday
No School

San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation Thanks You!

It has been a busy year for the Education Foundation. We elected a new board, hosted our first districtwide Read-A-Thon, supported 5th grade music and middle school athletics, participated in CityFEST 2017 and are busy planning a Fall Fun Run/Wellness Fair. Thank you to everyone who helped us grow this year!

The San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation believes every child deserves the best education possible. For too long, State funding has been severely inadequate and has failed to provide our children with essential learning experiences. The Foundation aims to fill this gap by funding a wide variety of education opportunities to help our diverse community of students achieve their full potential.

To join our team, email volunteer@smfcedfund.org. SMFCEF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, donations are tax-deductible. Tax ID 94-3110731

SAN MATEO PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECEIVES KENT AWARD FOR PANTHER READING PROGRAM

The San Mateo-Foster City School District is pleased to announce that the San Mateo County School Boards Association has awarded San Mateo Park Elementary School the J. Russell Kent Award for its outstanding Panther Reading Program.

Park School's Panther Reading Program combines Reading Recovery, Leveled Literacy Intervention, ongoing focused discussions about student literacy data, and professional development for Panther Reading personnel, as well as, classroom teachers. The program creates responsive and adaptable interventions for all students to succeed. At Park School, home of the Panthers, classroom teachers work closely with the Panther Reading team and rely on interventions that enable students to learn a variety of strategies to read, write, and understand the written world around them. Panther Reading makes sure no student is overlooked and everyone has the same opportunity to love reading.

For more information on the Kent Award Program visit: <https://www.smcsba.org/kent-awards>

Borel Middle School Honored by the California Department of Education

The San Mateo-Foster City School District is proud to announce that Borel Middle School has been selected as a 2017 California Gold Ribbon School. The California Department of Education (CDE) recognizes outstanding educational programs and practices by awarding the California Gold Ribbon Schools Award to public schools in California. Since

the program's inception, CDE has recognized 193 middle schools, 180 high schools, and 780 elementary schools as Gold Ribbon School Award recipients.

"What a great honor for Borel Middle School," said Dr. Joan Rosas, Superintendent of the San Mateo-Foster City School District in reaction to State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson's announcement on Tuesday. "Borel's staff, students and community have been very engaged over the last eight years in ensuring that all students in its very diverse community have the support needed to make continuous progress toward the State's Academic Standards."



Principal Retirements

Two of our principals retired this year after serving the district for many years. They have contributed immensely to the success of our district and we wish them well in this new chapter of their lives.

Congratulations to:

- Sheila Spieller, Principal of Parkside STEAM Elementary
- Phyllis Harrison, Principal of North Shoreview Montessori School

Borel Middle School Celebrates the Arts with FAME, the Musical

This spring, the Borel Drama Dream Theatre performed *FAME*, directed by Borel drama teacher Alyssa Goldrath. *Fame*, the Musical, is a full-throttle journey exploring the struggles, fears and triumphs of young artists navigating the worlds of dance, music, and theater. At New York City's legendary School for the Performing Arts, *Fame* follows a group of students as they learn to master their craft and grow alongside each other, rising to the various challenges



that face them. Over 120 students performed in this energetic musical to sold out crowds.

Bowditch Middle School Annual Musical – Beauty and the Beast



Bowditch Middle School celebrated its 40th year of performing annual musicals with the much beloved show *Beauty and the Beast*. Ms. Terri Smith directed this production with a cast and crew of over 100 Bowditch students. The live orchestra, conducted by Mr. David Song, was

comprised of current and former Bowditch students along with music teacher Mr. Jason McElroy. It was an enchanting performance!

MEASURE X Update: New Elementary School in Foster City

Ten Community Meetings have been held this spring to provide information on the new school and to receive community input on specific aspects of the planning to date:

- The March Community Meeting focused on explaining the process which will be used by the independent environmental consultants to do the needed analyses and prepare a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and to receive public comment on specific areas and issues that the EIR should address.
- The focus of the April Community Meetings was to provide information on the planning to date, the use of Guiding Principles for the school design which were revised after the three Community Meetings held in November 2016 and to invite community input on the layout of the facilities and the architectural renderings of the buildings on the site.
- The June Community Meetings were held to update the community and gather input on the specific site layout including on-site parking and pick up, drop off and passing lanes to lessen the traffic and parking impact on the surrounding neighbors and the outdoor instruction and play area design. In addition, the public was given an opportunity to provide comments on the planned materials and paint palette options on the exterior of the buildings.



The third meeting in June was co-hosted by the Ad Hoc Citizens Education Facilities Committee appointed by the City of Foster City in April with which the District is working.

Upcoming work includes completion of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) which is slated to be released for a 45 day public comment period this summer. The EIR, once finalized after the public comments are taken into consideration, will be discussed by the District's Board of Trustees before the adoption of the final EIR after a public hearing. The Board will then review the final plans to be submitted to the State's Division of State Architect (DSA) which is one of the State agencies responsible for reviewing and approving all public school projects. The DSA is currently taking an average of 6 months to review and approve all plans which, given the architect's projected timeline, would mean that demolition and construction would start in late spring 2018 with school opening for the 2019-20 school year as planned.

The District's Board of Trustees and staff are very grateful to the voters for passing Measure X in November 2015 to provide the educational facilities needed for the increased and increasing enrollments throughout the San Mateo-Foster City School District.

For more information about the Measure X projects, please see the District's website at www.smfcsd.net and click on Measure X on the left side of the home page. Questions and comments can also be sent to measurex@smfcsd.net

SCHOOL BOARD

- Chelsea Bonini, *President* cbonini@smfcsd.net
- Lory Lorimer Lawson, *Vice President* llawson@smfcsd.net
- Audrey Ng, *Clerk* ang@smfcsd.net
- Nancy Kohn Hsieh, *Trustee* nkhsieh@smfcsd.net
- Ed Coady, *Trustee* ecoady@smfcsd.net

ADMINISTRATION

- Joan Rosas, *Ed.D., Superintendent* jrosas@smfcsd.net
- Heather Olsen, *Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services*
- Molly Barton, *Assistant Superintendent for Student Services*
- TBA, *Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources*
- Carolyn Chow, *Chief Business Official*

STAY IN TOUCH WITH SMFCSD



- **Website:** www.smfcsd.net
- **SMFCSD E-news:** Sign up to receive newsletter at www.smfcsd.net
- **Community Reports:** Mailed home quarterly to all residents in San Mateo & Foster City
- **Mobile App:** Download the San Mateo-Foster City SD app from Apple's App Store or GooglePlay
- **Facebook:** Like San Mateo-Foster City School District
- **Twitter:** Follow us @SMFCSD
- **School Newsletters/Email Blasts:** Ask your child's school how to sign up
- **Emergency Notifications:** Parents are automatically enrolled to receive time-sensitive information



COMMUNITY REPORT

Abbott Middle School performs High School Musical

In May, Abbott Middle School students performed *High School Musical Jr.* for hundreds of theater goers. The production was the 35th and final for Director Holly Stone. The Saturday show concluded with heart-felt thank yous and special gifts for Ms. Stone as well as for Musical Director Matthew Mattei, Choreographer Murlene Watkins, Set Designer Debra Torke, and Stage Manager Autumn Angel.

Numerous Abbott drama alumni turned out for the performances and to honor Ms. Stone and her team. It was clear that Stone's commitment to the performing arts has inspired, encouraged and positively influenced generations of students.

"*High School Musical* was the perfect choice for my final show," said Stone. "I love that it celebrates the joy and freedom of learning NOT to conform to the status quo." Thank you Holly for sharing that important message and so many others with our children. You will be missed!

VISION:

The San Mateo-Foster City School District educates and inspires students to live, lead, and learn with integrity and joy.

OUR MISSION

Our students are prepared to positively impact a dynamic and diverse world as they:

- *Develop life and career skills through academic excellence and personal wellness*
- *Become critical thinkers while taking responsible risks in their learning*
- *Acquire and exchange knowledge through collaboration and effective communication*
- *Utilize creativity and technology to maximize their potential*
- *Demonstrate socially responsible citizenship*

The San Mateo-Foster City School District operates 20 schools serving over 12,500 students. This includes four district-wide Magnet Schools as well as schools which offer thematic-based instruction (shown in *blue*).

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- Audubon
- Baywood*
- Beresford
- Brewer Island
- Foster City*
- George Hall
- Highlands
- Laurel*
- Meadow Heights*
- San Mateo Park

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

- Bowditch*

K-5 MAGNET SCHOOLS

- College Park*
Mandarin Immersion
- Fiesta Gardens International*
Spanish-English Immersion

K-5 MAGNET SCHOOLS

- North Shoreview (K-8)
District Montessori Program
- Parkside (K-8)
District Montessori Program

TK-5 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS with Specialized Programs

- LEAD *Literacy, Enrichment, Academics & Digital Learning*
- Sunnybrae *International Baccalaureate (IB)*

6-8 MIDDLE SCHOOLS with Specialized Programs

- Abbott* *Spanish-English Immersion*
- Bayside Academy - STEAM (K-5) | STEM (6-8)
Science, Technology, Engineering (Arts) & Mathematics
- Borel*
International Baccalaureate (IB)

* California Distinguished School