

COMMUNITY REPORT



SAN MATEO-
FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear San Mateo and Foster City Community,



We have enjoyed a positive opening for the 2017-2018 school year and it will be an exciting year filled with new connections with our students, families, colleagues and community members. Initiatives happening in our District include new language arts

materials, continued building plans at our middle schools, a new elementary school in Foster City, the opening of a K-8 STEAM/STEM program at Bayside Academy, the development of two Montessori programs at North Shoreview and Parkside and many innovative ideas coming from our newly energized SMFC Education Foundation and parent groups throughout the District!

Our emphasis continues to focus on the improvement of the academic achievement of all students and the development of social and emotional safety nets. Academically, we are continuing to develop a high quality math program, we have beautiful, new language arts textbooks in all of our classrooms and our English Language Development program is already positively impacting student achievement. Dr. Trudy Arriaga, Retired Superintendent and Professor, is working with our District to delve deeply into our policies and practices to help us find additional avenues to improve student access and achievement.

Of equal importance is providing emotional support for our students. Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports along with Restorative Practices are important frames to utilize when we need to intervene or respond to students in need. This year a new Countywide Suicide Protocol and Threat Assessment will be implemented which adds to the resources available to our staff.

LABOR NEGOTIATIONS

Our District is in negotiations with the San Mateo Elementary Teachers Association (SMETA). SMETA and the San Mateo-Foster City School District jointly requested the support of a mediator to bring a positive result to our on-going negotiations. As of this writing there have been four mediation sessions. We do realize that bringing contract negotiations to a conclusion has been a particularly lengthy

process. At the same time, we continue to believe that this process will result in a mutually acceptable agreement.

BUDGET

As you may know, the District is experiencing a structural deficit resulting from the loss of parcel tax funding combined with escalating costs of the STRS and PERS retirement systems and other necessary services. In order to make this information more accessible, the District has joined with other districts in the County in providing financial information on a user friendly platform called OpenGov. The platform is live and I encourage you to take a few minutes to visit the online site (please see article on page 3 for more information).

SUPERINTENDENT'S FISCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

I am forming a Superintendent's Fiscal Advisory Committee (FAC) which will meet three times during the next couple of months to review the District budget, reductions that will be necessary to balance the budget and to discuss revenue enhancements potentially in the form of a parcel tax. I am looking for community-wide representation on this Committee. To be considered for appointment, please complete an application by October 30, 2017.

Additionally, all interested community members are encouraged to participate in the review of our fiscal options by attending one of our four upcoming Community Meetings and by completing an online survey that will open in December (please see article on page 2 for more information).

EDUCATION FOUNDATION

We are grateful to the SMFC Education Foundation for their support of District programs. The recent RUN2FunD at Hillsdale High was a huge success both in terms of community building and fundraising. Thank you to President Colleen Sullivan, the Education Foundation Board and the many volunteers who supported this event.

I hope to see you at upcoming Coffee Chats or events around the community!

Sincerely,

Joan Rosas, Ed.D., Superintendent

CALENDAR

Wed, Nov 1

Kindergarten Info Meetings

(see insert for times)

Thu, Nov 2

Board Meeting 7:00 pm

Fri, Nov 10

Veteran's Day Holiday
No School

Thu, Nov 16

Board Meeting 7:00 pm

Wed, Nov 22 – Fri, Nov 24

Thanksgiving Break
No School

Thu, Dec 7

Board Meeting 7:00 pm

Fri, Dec 22 – Mon, Jan 8

Winter Break
No School

Thu, Jan 11

Board Meeting 7:00 pm

Mon, Jan 15

MLK, Jr. Holiday
No School

Coffee Chat



All parents and community members are welcome to share coffee and conversation with District Superintendent Joan Rosas.

All Chats are 6:30-7:30pm

Monday, November 6

Borel Middle School
425 Barneson Ave, SM

Monday, December 11

Abbott Middle School
600 36th Ave, SM

Wednesday, January 17

Bayside Academy
2025 Kehoe Ave, SM

Tuesday, February 27*

College Park Elementary
715 Indian Avenue, SM

*Conducted in Spanish.



STAY IN TOUCH WITH SMFCSD

- **Website:**
www.smfcfsd.net
- **SMFCSD E-news:** Sign up to receive newsletter at www.smfcfsd.net
- **Community Reports:**
Mailed home to all residents in San Mateo & Foster City
- **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

Superintendent's Fiscal Advisory Committee

Dr. Joan Rosas is seeking nominees to serve on a Fiscal Advisory Committee (FAC). The charge of the FAC is to understand the District's budget deficit and provide input to the Superintendent regarding reductions and a potential revenue enhancement via a parcel tax. Carolyn Chow, Chief Business Official, will serve as the committee's chair. A robust FAC with representative membership from the SMFCSD Community is desired. The following are examples of the membership requested:

1. Representatives of bargaining units and associations (SMETA/CSEA/SMEAA)
2. Certificated and/or classified staff
3. Parents/guardians serving on Parent Teacher Association (PTA), School Site Council (SSC), English Language Advisory Council (ELAC)
4. Parents/guardians with children attending SMFCSD schools
5. San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation Board Members
6. City Council Members from Foster City and San Mateo
7. Service Organization Leaders / Other School Related Organizations
8. Community Partners (Representatives of the business community cannot have a financial relationship with the District)
9. San Mateo and/or Foster City Community Members



It is expected that the FAC will meet 3 times: November 14 & 21, 2017 and January 16, 2018 at 5:00 pm at the SMFCSD District Office. FAC members may also choose to attend additional Community Meetings scheduled for December 5, 13, 14 and 18, 2017 at 6:30 pm (locations to be determined).

To be considered for appointment to this Committee, please complete an application by October 30, 2017. The Superintendent will consider and approve FAC members by November 3, 2017. Thank you for your interest in this initiative.

- Please complete an application online at: <https://tinyurl.com/SMFCSD-FAC>
- Or return the application by email to afarina@smfcfsd.net
- Or mail your application to:
SMFCSD
c/o Fiscal Advisory Committee
1170 Chess Drive
Foster City, CA 94404

The San Mateo-Foster City School District operates 20 schools serving over 12,500 students from preschool through 8th grade. For more information on our District, please visit the district website at www.smfcfsd.net, follow us on Twitter @SMFCSD and like us on Facebook @SanMateoFosterCitySD

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Audubon
Baywood
Beresford
Brewer Island
College Park
Mandarin Immersion
Fiesta Gardens International
Spanish-English Immersion
Foster City
George Hall
Highlands
Laurel
LEAD
Meadow Heights
San Mateo Park
Sunnybrae

K-8 SCHOOLS

Bayside Academy
STEAM (K-5) | STEM (6-8)
North Shoreview
Montessori (K-8)
Parkside
Montessori (TK-5)
MIDDLE SCHOOLS
Abbott
Spanish-English Immersion
Bayside Academy STEM 6-8
Mandarin Immersion Program
Borel
Bowditch

SCHOOL BOARD

Chelsea Bonini, *President*
cbonini@smfcfsd.net
Audrey Ng, *Vice President*
ang@smfcfsd.net
Nancy Kohn Hsieh, *Trustee*
nkhsieh@smfcfsd.net
Ed Coady, *Trustee* ecoady@smfcfsd.net

ADMINISTRATION

Joan Rosas, *Ed.D., Superintendent*
Heather Olsen, *Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services*
Molly Barton, *Assistant Superintendent for Student Services*
Sue Wieser, *Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources*
Carolyn Chow, *Chief Business Official*

New English Language Arts Program

The San Mateo-Foster City School District has adopted and is now implementing new English Language Arts/English Language Development curriculum for both our elementary and middle schools. Our new ELA/ELD programs are tightly aligned with the California ELA/ELD standards and Framework. Both curricula also provide engaging materials that support our English Learners through an embedded Designated English Language Development program.



For elementary schools, Benchmark Advance incorporates strong reading and writing instruction, with an emphasis on balanced literacy. Students engage in small and whole group instruction while learning about a variety of high-interest topics from literary fiction and informational text embedded in science and social studies content.

For middle schools, SpringBoard, from The College Board, is based on the Understanding by Design Model. This model emphasizes one of the most important features of SpringBoard: active learning. Middle School students actively engage in activities and embedded assessments that are designed to foster classroom collaboration, discussion, and debate, and help students practice presenting, speaking, and listening. Through literature circles, Socratic seminars and discussion groups, our students read, write and talk about complex literary and high-interest informational text. Students use real-life 21st Century Skills to build deep understandings of the connection between reading, writing and language using printed text and the integration of technology.

As our last Language Arts adoption was in 2003, our teachers are very excited to have these new resources in the classroom. Our grade level teams and departments have attended Professional Learning trainings directly from the publishers and are working collaboratively to learn how to optimize the curriculum to best meet the needs of all of our students. Just as we teach our students, all new learning takes time, we appreciate the hard work our teachers are engaging in as they navigate through our new curriculum and engage our students in innovative learning experience through Benchmark and SpringBoard.

stakeholders can easily learn about the District's financial data and drill down to further explore details on specific areas of interest. The portal is designed to enhance transparency in financial reporting and provide the community with an interactive tool to gain further insight into our operations.



To experience the visibility, openness, and accountability of District operations through OpenGov, please visit smfcsdca.opengov.com.



THANK YOU to our Community Partners

On behalf of the over 12,500 students we serve, we say thank you to our generous Community Partners. Together, we are building community and providing much needed services and programs to our students and families.

- Black Parents Association
- Central Peninsula Church
- City of Foster City
- City of San Mateo
- College of San Mateo
- Congregational Church of San Mateo
- Educate2, Inc.
- Faith in Action Bay Area
- First 5 San Mateo County
- Foster City Parks & Rec
- Foster City Public Library
- HEART
- Homework Central
- Jewish Council on Literacy
- LANDED
- MidPen Housing Corp.
- Operation School Bell
- Parent Involvement Project
- Parent Project
- Peninsula Bridge
- Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center
- Peninsula Health Care District
- Peninsula Multi-Faith Coalition
- San Mateo Police Activities League
- Project Read
- Rotary Clubs of Foster City & San Mateo
- Samaritan House
- San Mateo Congregational Church
- San Mateo County Coalition for Safe Schools
- San Mateo County Office of Education
- San Mateo County YMCA
- San Mateo Parks & Rec
- San Mateo Public Library
- San Mateo Union High School District
- SMART Center
- St. Bartholomew Social Justice
- St. James Community Foundation
- St. Mary's College Reading Recovery Program
- UC Berkeley

Physical Education Program



The SMFCSD physical education program has taken new shape throughout our schools over the last year. With the integration of technology, music, and mindfulness activities, our students are provided with skills that support their physical, emotional and mental wellness for life. Students throughout the district are engaging in health and fitness activities

that increase oxygen to the brain and energy to the body. Research indicates a tight correlation between regular participation in physical education to improved academic performance and brain functions, such as attention and memory. Students participating in physical activity are better able to stay focused and remain on task in the classroom, thus enhancing the learning experience. Healthy students are happy and confident students! Our physical education program is not just about running "the mile", it is about a holistic approach that supports all of our students with a plethora of life skills.

You can't educate a child who isn't healthy, and you can't keep a child healthy who isn't educated.

M. Jocelyn Elders, M.D.
– Former Surgeon General



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Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Information Meetings

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2017

9:00–10:30 AM

12:00–1:30 PM

6:00–7:30 PM

Bayside Performing Arts Center

2025 Kehoe Avenue, San Mateo

For parents/guardians of incoming Kindergarten & Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Students

- Kindergarten Eligible - 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2018
- TK Eligible - 5 years of age on or between September 2 - December 2, 2018

- Please attend only one session per family as space is limited
- Parents/Guardians only, no childcare available

Learn more about:

- School Registration
- School Transfer Options
- Magnet School Programs

Spanish translation provided

For more information:
www.smfcsd.net or 650.312.7345