



SAN MATEO-
FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter

Superintendent's Letter - January 2018

Dear San Mateo–Foster City Community,

Welcome back from winter break and Happy New Year! We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead with our focus on the success of our students.

SMFCSD Board of Trustees

At the recent California School Boards Association (CSBA) conference that I attended with our Board Members, presenters consistently encouraged Trustees to spend the majority of time available in Board meetings addressing student success. A session titled *Research Based Pathway to Effective Governance* presented six central office and school site actions as being particularly relevant to student achievement: setting a vision and goals with the focus on students, establishing a coherent districtwide system that still offers a degree of autonomy at the school site, using data to inform and support continuous improvement, creating a district culture that supports student achievement including establishing strong community partnerships, investing in staff capacity at all levels, and maintaining stable and effective leadership. They also found that effective Boards set direction, establish structure, provide support, ensure accountability and act as community leaders. On January 20, 2018, at the Board Governance Workshop, the newly formed Board had an opportunity to begin to consider the policies and protocols they will utilize to move the District forward. Along these lines, the Trustees have requested that a **Special Board Meeting be called for February 1, 2018 at 6:00 pm to determine the process that will be**

followed for filling the upcoming Board vacancy.

Governor's Proposed Budget

You may have heard that the Governor's proposed budget has been released. While this budget does support education, California is still ranked at the bottom in relation to other states in the nation. At the next regularly scheduled Board meeting on January 25, 2018, the Board will consider a resolution calling for full and fair funding for California Schools. Additionally, information gathered from Town Halls, our local survey and work with the District's Fiscal Advisory Committee regarding the District's fiscal condition will be presented. I encourage you to join us.

Sincerely,

Joan Rosas, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Superintendent Coffee Chats

You are invited to share coffee and conversation with San Mateo-Foster City School District Superintendent Joan Rosas. Come share your ideas and discuss the latest topics impacting SMFCSD and public education. All parents and community members are welcome to attend. We hope to see you there!

2017-2018 Upcoming Coffee Chat

All Chats are from 6:30-

7:30 pm

Tuesday, February 27*

College Park Elementary
715 Indian Avenue, San Mateo

****Please note, this Coffee Chat will be conducted in Spanish.***



Upcoming Events

Thu, Jan 25

Board Meeting, 7:00 pm -
District Office

Thu, Feb 1

Special Board Meeting -
Board Vacancy Process, 6:00
pm - District Office

Thu, Feb 8

Board Meeting, 7:00 pm -
District Office

Mon, Feb 19

President's Day Holiday - No
School

Thu, Feb 22

Board Meeting, 7:00 pm -
District Office

Puberty Curriculum Review & Informational Workshop

The San Mateo-Foster City School District will be holding two meetings for families regarding puberty - the first meeting is for parents/guardians only and will review the District's curriculum *Puberty Talk*. The second meeting will provide an informational workshop for both parents and pre-adolescent children (ages 10-12). Please see flyers below for more information.

Parent/Guardian Information Night on the *Puberty Talk* Curriculum Thursday, February 1, 2018

from 6:30-7:30pm

Fiesta Gardens International School

1001 Bermuda Drive, San Mateo

Parents Only Please

Please reserve your space for by registering at: <http://bit.ly/2FIJX9Q>

Puberty Talk Informational Workshop for Parents/Trusted Adults AND Pre-adolescent Children (ages 10-12)

February 20, 2018

6:30pm-8:00pm

Fiesta Gardens International School

1001 Bermuda Drive, San Mateo

Please reserve your space for by registering at: <http://bit.ly/2FIJX9Q>

Parent Information Night 5TH Grade Puberty Talk Curriculum



The San Mateo-Foster City School District is pleased to inform you that your child will have the opportunity to participate in the *Puberty Talk* curriculum starting this year. *Puberty Talk* is a comprehensive puberty education program developed by trained professionals in the field of sexuality education by Health Connected, a non-profit organization specializing in adolescent sexual health education. <https://www.health-connected.org/>

The *Puberty Talk* curriculum consists of five lessons, designed as an open forum for pre-teens to ask questions and get medically accurate, unbiased information on their growth and development. *Puberty Talk* complies with the California Health Education Content Standards and the California Education Codes 51930 – 51939 (California Healthy Youth Act, 2015).

The *Puberty Talk* curriculum instructs the following topics:

- Puberty
- Personal hygiene
- Physical and sexual development
- Conception and pregnancy
- Sexual Abuse and inappropriate behavior
- Sexual Orientation
- Family Communication
- HIV and AIDS
- Decision-making/asking for help

Our school district will be hosting a parent/guardian information night on the *Puberty Talk* Curriculum on:

Date: Thursday, February 1st, 2018
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Location: Fiesta Gardens International School
1001 Bermuda Drive
San Mateo

Parents Only Please

Please reserve your space for by registering at: <http://bit.ly/2FIJX9Q>

If you would like to preview the curriculum or the student materials, please contact your child's 5th grade teacher. Preview materials are also available at the Instructional Media Center at the district office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please call 312-7700 for times.



San Mateo-Foster City School District presents...

A Health Connected Family Program

PUBERTY TALK

For: Parents/trusted adults
AND pre-adolescent children
(ages 10-12)

Date: February 20, 2018

Time: 6:30pm-8:00pm

Location: Fiesta Gardens International School
Multi Purpose Room
1001 Bermuda Dr, San Mateo

Health Connected has been serving youth and parents in the Bay Area with their superior sexual health and relationships education for over 20 years. Health Connected strives to empower parents and trusted adults with knowledge and skills to effectively engage their children in open and honest conversations about sexual health.

You are invited to join us for a fun and interactive family program. Health Connected Family Programs are inclusive- we learn together in mixed family and gender groups to encourage understanding and acceptance. Using drawings, multimedia and activities, the various changes that happen to the body during puberty are explained. Families learn, laugh, and share together, making a potentially sensitive subject more comfortable and paving the way for future conversations.

Spanish translation will be available upon request.

800 Parks Ave | Redwood City, CA 94061 | 650.367.7137 | www.health-connected.org | info@health-connected.org

Annual Toy Drive at Bowditch Middle School



With the help of the Foster City Rotary Club, the Bowditch Interact Club, and the Bowditch Student Council, students collected hundreds of toys to donate to charity at their Annual Holiday Toy Drive in December. Great job Bowditch!

Flu Season Is Here

Winter is here, which also means the cold and flu season is officially upon us. The health and safety of our students and staff is a primary concern in the San Mateo-Foster City School District and in order to keep our students, staff and families healthy, we need your assistance at home.

We encourage you and your family to continue to practice the 3 C's:

- **Cover** your sneeze with a tissue and cover your cough with the inside of your elbow and not your hands
- **Clean** your hands frequently with soap and water and avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth
- **Contain** germs by staying home and keeping your child home they are sick (A fever >100, coughing, sore throat, body aches, nausea, vomiting etc.)

FLU SEASON IS HERE.

MINIMIZE YOUR RISK OF CATCHING THE FLU.

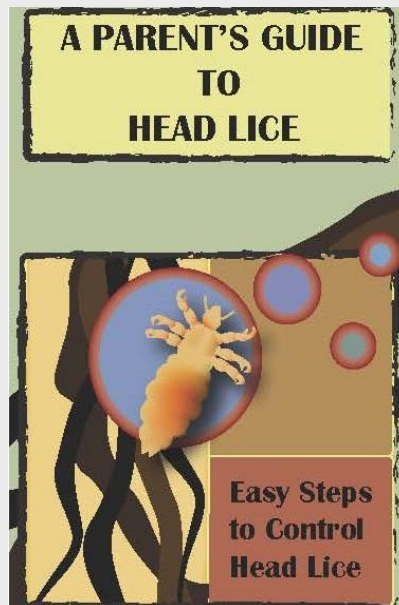
- RECEIVE YOUR ANNUAL FLU VACCINE.
- WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN WITH SOAP & WARM WATER.
- COVER YOUR NOSE & MOUTH WHEN YOU COUGH OR SNEEZE.

DO YOUR PART.

- AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH.
- WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE EATING.
- DO NOT SHARE YOUR FOOD, DRINK, OR UTENSILS WITH OTHERS.
- AVOID CLOSE CONTACT WITH SICK PEOPLE.

To keep the flu from spreading, we ask that you keep sick children at home until they are symptom-free for 24 hours. Any children who are sick at school will be sent home. [Read More ...](#)

A Parent's Guide to Head Lice



We are seeing increasing numbers of students with lice and nits. Please remember that this is not a health issue so much as a nuisance issue. Please examine your child's head as well as all members of your household. You may use the information below to help identify lice. Anyone can get head lice. They are most common in young school-age children, but teens and adults can have it as well.

What to Look For:

- **Nits on the hair shaft** - Nits are the eggs which are oval, whitish-gray objects glued to the side of the hair shaft. Nits are most often found near the nape of the neck, behind the ears, and at the crown.

- **Lice in the hair** - Lice are usually brown but can vary in color. They are the size of a sesame

seed. They move quickly and keep out of the light.

PLEASE REMEMBER: ALL NITS MUST BE REMOVED BEFORE A CHILD RETURNS TO SCHOOL.

See the [Parent's Guide to Head Lice](#) or visit the [CA Department of Public Health](#) for more information.

members can read to pre-readers to foster their love of reading. Everyone in our community can get behind the value of reading. With such clear benefits to our students, the SMFC Education Foundation is eager to promote this event! Read-on, readers!

Middle Schoolers, we are working on a special fundraiser just for you. Stay tuned to learn more! P.S. We are always looking for volunteers. Email president@smfcedfund.org to find out more. SMFCEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax ID 94-3110731

School Board Meeting Summaries & Upcoming Agendas

Board Meeting Summary - January 11, 2018

The San Mateo-Foster City School District Board of Trustees:

- Shared information from the California School Boards Association Annual Education Conference
- Received information on the 2016-17 Audited Financial Statements
- Approved Resolution Number 7/17-18 to Certify the Environmental Impact Report for the New Elementary School in Foster City Including Other Related Actions (v)
- Conducted a Public Hearing on the Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA) for the New School in Foster City
- Reviewed Financing Approvals for the New School in Foster City
- Approved AB 1200 Public Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement (SMETA) (v)
- Approved SMETA-SMFCS D Tentative Agreement/Salary Schedules (v)



Board Meeting Summary - December 20, 2017

The San Mateo-Foster City School District Board of Trustees:

- Received information on the Measure X - Background
- Received information the Phase I and II Project Budget Overview
- Received information on Gym and Gym/Classroom Projects
- Received information on the New Elementary School in Foster City
- Received a Letter of Comments from the City of Foster City Planning Division Regarding Design Drawings for the New Elementary School in Foster City

To review board presentations, upcoming agendas, and previous meeting summaries - go to the [Board Agenda & Summaries page](#) of the SMFCS D website.

All Board Meetings are open to the public and held at the San Mateo-Foster City School District Office - 1170 Chess Drive, Foster City at 7:00 pm. Community members are encouraged to attend.

2017-2018 SMFCSD Student Calendar

- August 15 - First Day of School
- September 1-4 - Labor Day Holiday
- October 6-20 - Fall Break
- November 10 - Veteran's Day Holiday
- November 22-24 - Thanksgiving Break
- December 22 - January 8 - Winter Break
- January 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday
- February 19 - President's Day Holiday
- March 12 - Teacher PD Day - No School
- April 2-13 - Spring Break
- May 28 - Memorial Day Holiday
- June 21 - Last Day of School



[2017-2018 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#) | [2018-2019 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#)

***NEW!* Parents, tired of manually entering important district dates into your calendar? Now you can export the SMFCSD Student Calendar to your device. Go to our [District Calendar](#) page and click on Export the SMFCSD Calendar.**



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Website](#)