



SAN MATEO-
FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter

Superintendent's Letter - April 2017

Dear San Mateo-Foster City Community,

Welcome back! I hope you had a restful and restorative break with your friends and family. We are now preparing for the final few weeks of the 2016-2017 school year. This last quarter of the year is always packed with final teaching moments, testing, spring events and promotion ceremonies. Enjoy all the fun that lies ahead!

CAASPP Testing

I do want to remind everyone that CAASPP testing starts on **April 24**. This year, our 5th & 8th grade students will also pilot the new CA Science Test (CAST), which assesses the Next Generation Science Standard (NGSS). Students will not receive scores for the pilot test, however, student participation data will be collected and reported for accountability. The CAST replaces the CST Science test. Look for more information coming from your child's school regarding their testing calendar.

LCAP Engagement

The engagement process for development of the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) continues. Thank you to our families, staff and community members that took the time to complete the LCAP Stakeholder Priority Survey. At this point, preliminary information has been gathered from all school sites and matched with available funds. Drafting of the LCAP is being done with the plan to send information back out to the school sites for review in April and May. The Board of Trustees will review and approve this plan in June. Thank you to all staff, parents and community members who have worked so diligently on creating a plan that supports the academic and wellness needs of all of our students across the district.

Measure Y Parcel Tax

During Spring Break we continued to monitor the results of the Measure Y parcel tax. I would like to thank everyone who participated in the election. The required percentage to pass a parcel tax is 66.67% and, as of April 7, there were 65.2% in favor of the measure. While the County Election's Office is still certifying results, it appears that the bulk of the vote has been counted and the margin necessary to reach the two-thirds threshold is unlikely to be reached.

The SMFCSD Board of Trustees is knowledgeable of the needs of the District and in an effort to be proactive the District has made \$2.4 million in reductions for the 2017-2018 school year. These reductions include a tightening of staffing formulas throughout the district, a reorganization of the Education Services Division which resulted in a reduction of positions and the reallocation of some one-time funding.

As always, our first priority is to ensure that our students receive a quality education. Further budgetary information will be provided as it becomes available.

I look forward to seeing you at my last Coffee Chat of the year at Fiesta Gardens International School Tuesday, April 11th.

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!

UPCOMING COFFEE CHATS

Tuesday, April 11

6:30-7:30 pm

Fiesta Gardens Elementary
1001 Bermuda Drive, San
Mateo



Upcoming Events

Tue, April 11

Coffee Chat 6:30 pm -
Fiesta Gardens
International School

Wed, April 12

Student Health
Presentation 6:00 pm -
District Office

Thu, April 13

Budget Update 6:00 pm
- District Office

Thu, April 20

Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- District Office

Thu, May 4

Walk, Bike & Roll to
School Day

Thu, May 4

Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- District Office

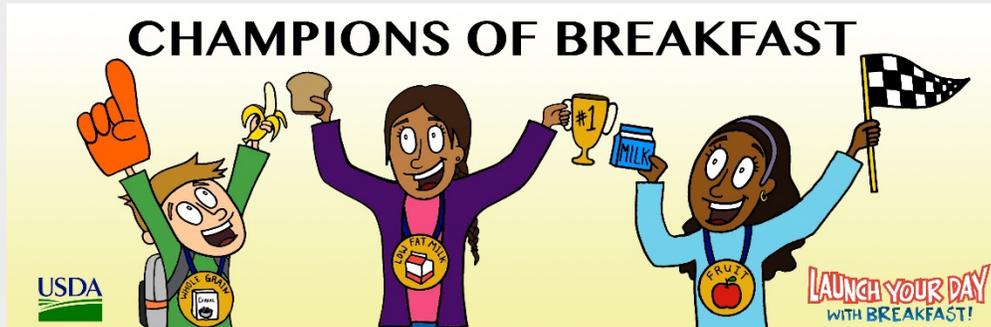
San Mateo Park Elementary Breakfast Champions!



We are pleased to announce that [San Mateo Park Elementary School](#) was recently the recipient of the Western Region's **2017 Champions of Breakfast Award** for the Implementation of an Innovative School

Breakfast Program Model.

The Champions of Breakfast Awards recognize schools and districts that operate exemplary School Breakfast Programs. We are proud to celebrate their success in implementing a Breakfast after the Bell model (brunch) and **tripling School Breakfast participation**. Congratulations to San Mateo Park School and our Child Nutrition team!



Laurel Elementary Literacy Week

At [Laurel Elementary](#)

[School's](#) annual

Literacy week,

students celebrated with a day of “Switch-Around Reading”

where the teachers swap classes for read-aloud stories. Students love this, as they get to see

a past (or possibly a future) teacher! Teachers love it because they get to see familiar and new faces and they get

to have a bit of time with another grade level!



On Tuesday, Laurel welcomed world renowned author and performer, **MATTHEW GOLLUB**, for a full day of assemblies, a 5th grade writing workshop, and a Bilingual Family Literacy Night which drew about 200 attendees! Thank you to the many families that attended & also a special thank you to those who rode over on the special evening bus from College Park School!

On Thursday, Laurel hosted its 2nd Annual Guest Reader Day, during which community members, volunteers and elected officials are invited to read aloud in each classroom and they also enjoy a Reader’s Brunch with goodies made by Laurel’s parents! This event was a great success as it welcomed over 20 guest readers. **(Guest Readers Pictured - San Mateo Council Member Diane Papan, San Mateo Deputy Mayor Rick Bonilla, Foster City Council Member Sam Hindi & SMFCSD Trustee Kohn Hsieh)**

The week wrapped up with a Book Swap on Friday where each student was able to choose one new book to take home from the hundreds of books that are donated by families, teachers and community members throughout the week!

Bowditch WordMasters



A team representing [Bowditch Middle School](#) achieved Highest Honors in the recent WordMasters Challenge — a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 150,000 students annually. The sixth grade team scored

an impressive 194 points out of a possible 200 in the second of three meets this year, **placing first in the nation!**

Competing in the Blue Division of the WordMasters Challenge, sixth graders **Mounami Kayitha, Preston Sanderville, Evan Wu and Mathew Zheng** each earned a perfect score of 20 on the challenge. Nationally, only 39 sixth graders achieved this result. Other students from Bowditch Middle School who achieved outstanding results in the meet include sixth graders **Alice Bergeron-Palmer, Kanna Funabashi, Armita Ghajarrahi, Kincaid Mengel, Jane Oh, Niru Thirunarayanan, Andre Wang, Ryan Xu and Jack Zhang**. The students were coached in preparation for the WordMasters Challenge by **6th grade teacher Maggie Markham**. Congratulations Buccaneers!

Further information is available on the WordMasters website

- <http://www.wordmasterschallenge.com>

Student Health Education Series for Parents


 San Mateo-Foster City School District presents...

**Five Part Student Health Education Series:
For Parents and Community Members**

The San Mateo-Foster City School District will be offering five informational sessions that provides parents/guardians with the skills of how to address sensitive health topics to their children at home. Please RSVP in order to save your space for any one of these workshops at the San Mateo-Foster City District Office. Seating is limited. These are parent/guardian presentations only. If you have any questions, please contact: Julieanne Nakano, Health & Physical Education, Teacher on Special Assignment at jnakano@smfcsd.net or 650-312-7207.

Please join us!!

Part 1: Marijuana and the Adolescent Brain January 11, 2017 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Board Room Presenter: Ralph Cantor, Consultant (Past Presentation)	Part 2: How to Talk, "The Talk", about Sexual Health for Elementary Schools February 9, 2017 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Board Room Presenter: Health Connected R.S.V.P. using this link: https://goo.gl/forms/e6DeWeze16xh9rCA2
Part 3: How to Talk, "The Talk", about Sexual Health for Middle Schools March 7, 2017 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Board Room Presenter: Health Connected R.S.V.P. using this link: http://tinyurl.com/zup4frq	Part 4: <i>BEYOND VAPING: Electronic Devices, Alternative Nicotine Products and More</i> April 12, 2017 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Board Room Presenter: Alissa Balston R.S.V.P. using this link: http://tinyurl.com/hcv5e31
Part 5: Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity May T.B.D. 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Board Room	

The San Mateo-Foster City School District is offering five informational sessions that provide parents/guardians with the skills to address sensitive health topics with their children at home.

The **Wednesday, April 12th** presentation - **BEYOND VAPING: Electronic Devices, Alternative Nicotine Products and More** will be held from 6:00–7:30 pm at the District Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Julieanne Nakano, Health & Physical Education, Teacher on Special

Assignment at jnakano@smfcsd.net or (650) 312-7207.

To RSVP for the April 12th presentation - use this link: <http://tinyurl.com/hcv5e31>

Walk, Bike and Roll to School Day is Coming - May 10th!



On **Wednesday, May 10th**, put on your comfy shoes and join your school community in promoting health, fitness, and clean air by walking or rolling to school. Ideas for families include:

- Encouraging your student to use his/her safety knowledge when biking or skateboarding to school.
- Consider taking public transit or carpooling.

- If these options do not work for your family, please park several blocks from school and enjoy a little exercise and fresh air with your child as you walk together to school.

For more information on SMFCSD events contact Wini McMichael at **Wini McMichael** - wmc michael@smfcsd.net

For more information on the National program, go to <http://www.walkbiketoschool.org>

Help Wanted - SMFCSD IS HIRING!!

The SMFCSD has substitute teaching positions and part-time and full-time classified jobs available. Please consider supporting our students and teachers by working a few hours a day or more as a lunch supervisor, teacher assistant, translator, custodian, bus stop monitor, crossing guard, lunch server, or para professional supporting student learning. Whether you can fill in as a substitute or work full time, we can use your help!



For more information please visit the [Employment Opportunities Classified](#) page or contact **Barbara Weatherly at 650-312-7292** or bweatherly@smfcsd.net.

San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation Update



teams!

The middle school spring athletic season is underway. Our students are running track, competing in field events, playing tennis, soccer, and volleyball. Come out and cheer for your favorite Bobcat, Buccaneer, Eagle, and Falcon

UPCOMING EVENTS: We are currently working on Staff Appreciation, a districtwide read-a-

thon, and our participation in CityFEST 2017's Curiosity Zone. If you would like to help with any of these activities, please email volunteer@smfcedfund.org. Please note, our May FunRun/Health Fair has been rescheduled to September 2017.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Would you like to learn more about the Education Foundation? We are putting together our marketing, communication, fundraising and event teams now. Whatever your talent, we'd love to have you on our team! Interested? Please email volunteer@smfcedfund.org.

DONATE TODAY at www.smfcedfund.org. Help us provide all of our students with exceptional educational opportunities and experiences. SMFCEF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, donations are tax-deductible. Tax ID 94-3110731

School Board Meeting Summaries & Upcoming Agendas

Board Meeting Summary - March 23, 2017

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

- Received legal information regarding affordable workforce housing
- Approved the Network Refresh – Districtwide Servers, Storage, Classroom Intercom, and VOIP Systems
- Received information on the new California School Dashboard system for student accountability
- Received Information regarding Instructional Materials Adoption for English Learners
- Accepted the gifts as approved by the Superintendent
- Approved an additional two-year term for Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Members Fred Baer, Cormac Kissane, and Wayne Pitcher



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

2016-2017 San Mateo-Foster City School District Calendar

- August 17 - First Day of School
- September 5 - Labor Day Holiday
- October 24-31 - Fall Break
- November 11 - Veteran's Day Holiday
- November 23-25 - Thanksgiving Break
- December 19-January 9 - Winter Break
- January 16 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday
- February 20-21 - President's Day Holiday
- April 3-7 - Spring Break
- May 29 - Memorial Day Holiday
- June 14 - Last Day of School



[2016-2017 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#)

[2017-2018 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#)

[2018-2019 SMFCSD Student Calendar](#)



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