



SAN MATEO-
FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter

Superintendent's Letter - February 2017

Dear San Mateo-Foster City Community,

I am proud to report that during the January 19, 2017 Board meeting, the San Mateo-Foster City School District Board of Trustees passed a **Resolution Setting Forth the District's Principles in Support of Undocumented Students**. This Resolution presents a strong public message of support for all SMFCSD students. You can read the full text of the [Resolution](#) here.

Students between the ages of 6-18 not only have a right to attend school in California but are mandated to attend school pursuant to the compulsory attendance laws. The U.S. Supreme Court has held that no state may deny access to a basic public education to any child residing within the state, whether residing in the U.S. legally or not. (*Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982))

Further, all students have a right to be in a school free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, violence and intimidation. Students cannot learn when they do not feel welcome and safe at school. For this reason, we work very hard to create and maintain school environments where teachers, students, and other staff members can learn and work together safely.

Should you have concerns about your child's safety in any way, please let your

classroom teacher and/or administrator know. The elementary schools utilize a process called Positive Behavior Intervention and Support to address behavioral issues and the Middle Schools utilize Restorative Practices. Please check our [Student Social Responsibility](#) page on our website for further information.

Measures A and Y

As you may be aware, Measure A expires June 2017. This Measure provides \$7 million annually to the District for a variety of educational programs. In order to protect and maintain these programs, the San Mateo–Foster City School District Board of Trustees placed Measure Y on the March 28, 2017 mail in ballot. Measure Y renews the previous voter approved funding. You can find further information on both the [Measure A](#) and [Measure Y](#) pages of the SMFCSD website.

Measure X – Facilities Progress

We are full steam ahead with our **Phase 1 projects** which include a new elementary school in Foster City and the gyms and classrooms at Abbott and Borel Middle Schools and a gym at the Bayside STEM Academy. **Phase 2 projects** are slated to begin in 2019 and include replacing and adding classrooms at Bowditch Middle School, new classrooms and MPR's at Sunnybrae and George Hall Elementary Schools and a new neighborhood elementary school on the undeveloped portion of the College Park/Turnbull campus. Please continue to follow our progress on the [Measure X](#) page of the SMFCSD website.

I look forward to seeing you at one of my Coffee Chats coming up, see dates and locations below.

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

Monday, February 13

6:30-7:30 pm
George Hall Elementary
130 San Miguel Way, San Mateo



Thursday, March 9

6:30-7:30 pm
Baywood Elementary
600 Alameda de las Pulgas, San Mateo

Wednesday, March 15

6:30-7:30 pm
Bowditch Middle School Media Center
1450 Tarpon Street, Foster City

Tuesday, April 11

6:30-7:30 pm
Fiesta Gardens Elementary
1001 Bermuda Drive, San Mateo

Upcoming Events

February 13

Coffee Chat 6:30 pm -
George Hall
Elementary

February 16

Board Meeting 7:00
pm - District Office

Monday, February 20-21

President's Day
Holiday - No School

March 2

Board Meeting 7:00
pm - District Office

March 9

Coffee Chat 6:30 pm -
Baywood Elementary

March 15

Coffee Chat 6:30 pm -
Bowditch Middle
School

NEW Parkside Montessori Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Class Slated to Open in 2017-2018

The San Mateo-Foster City School District is excited to announce that Parkside Montessori has been given the opportunity to start a Montessori Transitional Kindergarten (TK) class in the fall of 2017, provided a sufficient number of students enroll.

If you know of any children who will be turning 5 between September 2 – December 2, 2017, please encourage their families to consider joining the Parkside Montessori Community!

Apply online through our InfoSnap transfer system — see the [Transfer Request Process](#) page of the SMFCSD website www.smfcsd.net.

Transfer requests are due by February 10th.

For more information on the Montessori program, see the [Parkside Elementary](#) website or contact Principal Melinda Fore at mfore@smfcsd.net



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For more information on the Montessori program, see the school website at <http://parkside.smfcsd.net> or contact Principal Melinda Fore at mfore@smfcsd.net

Bayside Academy - Where STEAM/STEM and Design Thinking Meet

Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, the Parkside STEAM K-5 program will move campuses to join the Bayside STEM Academy, creating the Bayside Academy, one K-8 School for STEAM/STEM. The school uniquely combines the focus of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and the Arts with the innovative practice of Design Thinking.

Bayside Design Thinkers experience and relate to the world differently,



Bayside Academy

STEAM K-5 | STEM 6-8

and as a result, Bayside students and staff are energized as innovators and creative problem solvers. Design Thinkers focus on empathy to find creative solutions to everyday problems and challenge the way people approach all aspects of life including their work, studies, and everyday issues. Design Thinking is a much sought after approach in the business world and is concurrently gaining traction across the nation in K-12 schools. It promotes innovation, collaboration, empathy, creativity, prototyping and user-tested solutions. The Bayside Academy program is based on a Design Thinking model developed at Stanford University's D school.

The Bayside Academy will provide a rigorous academic program, develop accomplished lifelong learners, critical thinkers, problem solvers, effective communicators, and provide contextualized opportunities to practice design thinking, curiosity, creativity, and increase intellectual capacity, self-esteem, and social consciousness. For more information, see the [Bayside Academy](#) website.

College Park Immersion School Awarded STARTALK Grant

The SMFCSD is proud to announce that [College Park Mandarin Immersion School](#) has been awarded the STARTALK Grant on behalf of the National Security Agency (NSA) and National Foreign Language Center (NFLC).

The grant will provide a 2017 STARTALK Chinese DNA and Genetics

Summer Academy, a three-week immersion program which integrates Science and Technology into daily lessons that facilitate student learning. The instructional program, entitled, "Exploring the Wonders of DNA and Genetics," will be a new program created in partnership with the instructional staff at College Park School and a genetics professor at Stanford University. The program will offer 60 K-5 students a fun and innovative Chinese immersion experience. Congratulations to College Park!



College Park
Elementary School

中文沉浸式資優課程

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: Julienne 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/e8deWeze16xh9rCA2
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/zup4frg	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 Ralston 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 February 9th presentation will be on How to Talk "The Talk" about Sexual Health for Elementary Schools. It will be held from 6:00pm–8:00pm at the District Office.

The March 7th presentation will be on How to Talk "The Talk" about Sexual Health for Middle Schools. It will be held from 6:00pm–8:00pm at the District Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Julienne Nakano, Health & Physical Education, Teacher on Special Assignment at jnakano@smfcsd.net or (650) 312-7207.

To **RSVP for the February 9th presentation**, use this link - <https://goo.gl/forms/e8deWeze16xh9rCA2>

To **RSVP for the March 7th presentation**, use this link - <http://tinyurl.com/zup4frg>

Teach San Mateo County Recruitment Fair

Teach San Mateo County

EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT

FAIR

Saturday, April 1, 2017
10 am to 3 pm

101 Twin Dolphin Drive
Redwood City, CA 94065

*All current, prospective, and
substitute PK-12 teachers and
administrators are invited to
attend this event*

Registration will open in February

Find more information at
<http://tinyurl.com/teachsmc2017>

Hosted by:



SAN MATEO
COUNTY
OFFICE OF
EDUCATION

San Mateo County's 23 school
districts serve nearly 94,000
students:

Bayshore Elementary
Belmont-Redwood Shores
Brisbane
Burlingame
Cabrillo Unified
Hillsborough City
Jefferson Elementary
Jefferson Union High
La Honda-Pescadero Unified
Las Lomas Elementary
Menlo Park City
Millbrae
Pacifica
Portola Valley
Ravenswood City
Redwood City
San Bruno Park
San Carlos
San Mateo-Foster City
San Mateo Union High
Sequoia Union High
South San Francisco Unified
Woodside Elementary
San Mateo County Office of Education

On Saturday, April 1, 2017 the San Mateo County Office of Education will host the [2017 Educator Recruitment Fair](#). If you know of anyone considering a career in teaching, have them **stop by the SMFCSD booth!**

Candidates will meet with representatives from public school districts recruiting for PK-12 teachers, prospective teachers, substitute teachers, and certificated administrative positions throughout San Mateo County. Workshops and information will be available on how to become a teacher and/or substitute teacher, credentialing and Induction. You may sign up for workshops on the day of the event at the registration table.

Informal interviews will be held onsite so come dressed in interview attire and bring 25 copies of your current resume. All PK-12 teachers, prospective teachers, substitute teachers and certificated administrators are welcome to attend this event.

Go to the SMCOE website to register

- <https://sanmateo.k12oms.org/eventdetail.php?gid=868&id=127802>

School Accountability Report Cards Are Now Available

Public schools throughout California are required to provide information to the community in the form of an annual School Accountability Report Card (SARC). These report cards provide a variety of data to allow the public to evaluate and compare schools in seven major areas:

- demographic information
- school safety and climate for learning
- academic data
- class size
- teacher and staff information
- curriculum and instruction

- fiscal and expenditure data

Following state guidelines, the report cards, issued each spring, focus on the previous academic year. You may request a paper copy of a SARC report from any school office, the District Office or by downloading it off the SMFCSD website. If you have questions about the information contained in the SARC or would like additional information about the school, please contact the site principal.

We invite you as parents and community members to become partners with us as we strive to provide a quality education for all. **Visit the SMFCSD website to review your school's SARC - [2015-2016 School Accountability Report Cards](#).**

Head Lice Reminder



It's that time of year where once again we are seeing increasing numbers of students with lice and nits. 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, using the information given 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.

ALL NITS MUST BE REMOVED BEFORE A CHILD RETURNS TO SCHOOL

For more information regarding Lice, please visit the [California Department of Public Health Website](#)

PTA Reflections Contest at Bowditch

[Bowditch Middle School](#) is pleased to announce that out of seven first place entries, three students received the Award of Excellence (1st place in the District level competition) and have been advanced to the California State PTA Reflections Contest. The three candidates are:

- **Lucas Immanuel - Film**
- **Aditya Kishore - Photography**
- **Nicole Masarova - Literature**



Thanks again to all the participants and we wish Nicole, Lucas and Aditya the very best!

The Award of Merit, Honorable Mention, and Participation entries will be displayed at the 17th District PTA's Founders Day Luncheon on Friday, February 10th at Dominic's at Oyster Point.

Additional Bowditch Awards:

- **Jane Chen, Visual Arts - Award of Merit**
- **Asuka Iwamoto, Visual Arts, Participation Award**
- **Natalie Masarova, Dance, Award of Merit**
- **Amasha Perera, Music, Award of Merit**

WordMasters Challenge at Bowditch



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 186 points out of a possible 200 in the first of three meets this year, placing **fourth in the nation!**

Congratulations Bowditch Buccaneers!

For more information on the program, see the [WordMasters website](#).

School Board Meeting Summaries & Upcoming Agendas

Board Meeting Summary - February 2, 2017

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

- Received information regarding the January 2017 Governor's Proposed Budget
- Engaged in a Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Stakeholder Workshop
- Accepted the gifts as approved by the Superintendent

To review upcoming Board of Trustee Meeting 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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