

COMMUNITY REPORT



SAN MATEO-
FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Dear San Mateo-Foster City Community,

We enter into spring with renewed energy and excitement. In this Community Report, we will highlight the many exciting programs

and initiatives currently happening in our District.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF MEASURE V

On December 3rd we learned that the Measure V parcel tax had officially passed! On behalf of the District, I want to thank you for your support of this Measure. Funding will ensure that staff who provide essential programs for our students will continue with their work without disruption. The District was also able to provide an increase in salary for our classified and certificated staff members. And, much needed funding will be available for arts and STEM programming throughout the District.

We look forward to working with our students, staff, families and community members to ensure that the implementation of Measure V is a success in every school in our District. As we move forward, a Citizen's Oversight Committee will be established and the District will provide updates to ensure accountability and transparency. Watch for upcoming meetings at our school sites to discuss options. We firmly believe that strong schools contribute to a strong community and thank you again for your generous support.

CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS

Congratulations to Borel and Bowditch Middle Schools for being named 2019 California Distinguished Schools! See article on page 2.

EQUITY TASK FORCE

While student achievement continues to rise in the SMFCSD, there is an opportunity gap between groups of students in our District. As an educational institution, we are committed to ensuring the success of all students. To this end, the Board of Trustees adopted an Equity Resolution and formed an Equity Task Force. See article on page 2.

MEASURE X UPDATE

We are seeing progress on our Phase I Measure X facilities projects. Thanks to the support of our community through this bond measure, you will see shovels in the ground this spring! See article on page 3.

NEW SCIENCE TEXT BOOKS

This spring our middle school science teachers are engaging in the instructional materials piloting process for new science curriculum. The MS Science pilot team is planning and implementing two state-adopted NGSS-aligned curricula throughout the spring semester. The team will choose one curriculum to recommend to the Board for adoption. Piloting of new Elementary science materials will begin in the fall.

We look forward to continuing to reach our community through quarterly newsletters, timely and relevant updates on our SMFCSD website, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages, and holding community Coffee Chats.

Sincerely,

Joan Rosas, Ed.D.,
Superintendent

CALENDAR

- Thursday, April 18**
Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- Thursday, May 2**
Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- Thursday, May 16**
Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- Monday, May 27**
Memorial Day Holiday
No School
- Thursday, June 6**
Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- Thursday, June 20**
Last Day of School
Board Meeting 6:30 pm



In January, SMFCSD received 3 shiny, new school buses thanks to a grant we received from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. Thank you to our community partner BAAQM!



THANK YOU to our Community Partners

- Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- Black Parents Association
- Breathe California
- Central Peninsula Church
- Chance to Excel
- City/County Association of Governments
- City of Foster City
- City of San Mateo
- City of San Mateo Safe Routes to School
- College of San Mateo
- Craig Newgard Scholarship Program
- 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
- Latinos del Futuro Scholarship Program
- 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
- Peninsula Special Interest Lions Club
- Project Read
- Rotary Clubs of Foster City & San Mateo
- Samaritan House
- San Mateo Academic Rotary Team (SMART) Scholarship Program
- San Mateo Congregational Church
- San Mateo County Coalition for Safe Schools
- San Mateo County Health System of Diversity & Equity
- San Mateo County Office of Education
- San Mateo County YMCA
- San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation
- San Mateo Parks & Rec
- San Mateo Police Activities League
- San Mateo Public Library
- San Mateo Union High School District
- San Mateo Youth Foundation Scholarship Program
- SMART Center
- St. Bartholomew Social Justice
- St. James Community Foundation
- St. Mary's College Reading Recovery Program
- Vision To Learn
- Whole Kids Foundation Garden Grants

OUR DISTRICT'S DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS

Congratulations to Borel and Bowditch Middle Schools for being named 2019 California Distinguished Schools! State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond announced that only 162 middle and high schools are being honored under the 2019 Distinguished Schools Program. Sponsored by the California Department of Education and California Casualty, the program recognizes outstanding education programs and practices. Schools are awarded for achieving exceptional student performance for two consecutive school years or closing the achievement gap between two school years. These schools are examples of excellent teaching, learning, collaborating and successful school climate efforts.



BOREL MIDDLE SCHOOL

To meet the needs of an increasingly diverse student population, Borel Middle School established several professional learning communities, developed multi-tiered supports for students performing below grade level, and implemented restorative practices to promote a healthy school climate. As a result, the 2018 Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment showed increased student performance in English Language Arts and

Mathematics, particularly for socioeconomically disadvantaged students (+10.9 and +10.4 points, respectively) and Latino/Hispanic students (+13.4 and +14.5 points, respectively). Overall student engagement and school climate increased while discipline referrals and absenteeism decreased.

BOWDITCH MIDDLE SCHOOL

To reach its goal of minimizing suspensions and increasing student attendance, Bowditch Middle School adopted a model Restorative



Practices program, recognizing that student wellness is a key component to overall achievement. The school incorporated multiple layers of social, emotional, and mental health support into its practices, and focused on building empathy and repairing relationships between students. Bowditch improved its counseling services, trained teacher leaders to facilitate restorative circles, and contracted with the Youth Service Bureau to provide additional support for students who may be vulnerable. According to the 2018 California School Dashboard, Bowditch's suspension rates decreased 1.1 percent since 2016. Congratulations to both schools!

A Focus on Equity



SMFCSD Equity Task Force

The SMFCSD Board of Trustees is committed to equity and ensuring that all students in our District succeed. The Trustees adopted the National Equity Project's Equity Definition and have established an Equity Task Force for which over 60 applications were received. Applicants represent parents, students, classified staff, certificated staff and community members.

The Equity Task Force will review policies and practices in order to identify and recommend areas of growth for the District.

MEASURE X UPDATES



Demolition day at former Charter Square Shopping Center

The new facilities projects at Abbott, Bayside and Borel Middle Schools and the new elementary school in Foster City are well underway with demolition beginning this spring. This is a major step in fulfilling the commitment to voters in the San Mateo-Foster City School District who supported the Measure X Bond to build facilities for increased enrollments in the District.

New Elementary School in Foster City

We are happy to report that demolition on the former Charter Square Shopping Center site is underway, work is expected to last 3-4 months depending on weather conditions. Once complete, the District will receive title to the property for the original agreed upon price of \$30.1 million plus the cost of the work done to date including the design of the school, technical studies, State, regional and local approvals, and the site demolition, remediation and grading.

The District has prepared to issue a notice to receive bids in May for the construction of the school to develop a pool of eligible bidders. For more information about the pre-qualification process, go to Partnering with SMFCSD—Pre-qualification for Construction Projects page: <https://tinyurl.com/prequalify-proj>.

If the lowest, responsive and responsible bid received is within the District's approved revised budget, then construction is expected to start this summer with the school ready for occupancy during the 2020-21 school year. Look for more information and photos of the work on the District's website: <https://tinyurl.com/new-fostercity-school>.

New Gym/Classrooms Projects at Abbott & Borel Middle School, New Gym Project at Bayside Academy

After many months of planning, undergoing a lengthy State review process, coordinating with the City of San Mateo, and dealing with rising costs of construction in the Bay Area, we are happy to report that the Trustees have awarded construction bids for the gym at Bayside, the gym and classrooms

at Abbott and the excavation, grading and underground utilities bid for Borel.

Community meetings were held at all three schools during March and April to share the project plans. Shovels are in the ground at all three sites!

Photos of work in progress will be posted. Thank you for your support on this journey to provide needed facilities for our students!

Look for more information and photos of the demolition work on the school's websites:

- Follow the **Abbott Project** at <https://tinyurl.com/MeasureX-AbbottProject>
- Follow the **Bayside Project** at <https://tinyurl.com/MeasureX-BaysideProject>
- Follow the **Borel Project** at <https://tinyurl.com/MeasureX-BorelProject>

Planning for Phase II of Measure X is beginning. Visit our website for the most current information <https://tinyurl.com/info-measure-x>



Renderings of new classrooms and gym for Abbott (above) and the gym at Bayside Academy



LCAP Spotlight with new Assistant Superintendent David Chambliss

The Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) is a critical part of California's Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). It is a three-year, district-level plan that is updated annually. The plan describes the school district's key goals for students, the specific actions the district will take to achieve the goals, and the metrics used to measure progress. The LCAP addresses the needs of all students, including specific student groups, and all districts must specifically address the achievement of English Learners, Foster Youth, and low-income students. In addition, the LCAP must address the state of California's priority areas that include student academic achievement, school climate, student access to a broad curriculum, and parent engagement.

This year, the District took a different approach to our LCAP Family & Community Engagement Meetings. Five meetings were held from January to March to review our district LCAP, reflect on the root causes of student achievement, and to recommend district improvement strategies. Your input is valued!

We hope you were able to join us for one of these important meetings. If not, you may still participate in a community survey that will be available in April/May. Watch for more details on our SMFCSD website.

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, **David Chambliss** joined the San Mateo-Foster City School District in July 2018 after serving the students and families of Oakland for almost 30 years, most



recently as the Deputy Chief of Teaching and Learning. He is a graduate of Yale College and received his Masters at UC Berkeley. He is the father of three boys and loves to read mysteries and run trails.



Thanks to our partnership with Gilead, our middle school science classrooms received new Pyrex Lab Glassware, digital thermometers, and vacuum pump bell jar kits that can be used in studying sound waves, air resistance, and air pressure.

SCHOOL BOARD

Shara Watkins, *President* sharawatkins@smfcsd.net

Noelia Corzo, *Vice President* ncorzo@smfcsd.net

Rebecca Hitchcock, *Clerk* rhitchcock@smfcsd.net

Kenneth Chin, *Trustee* kchin@smfcsd.net

Audrey Ng, *Trustee* ang@smfcsd.net

ADMINISTRATION

Joan Rosas, *Ed.D., Superintendent*

David Chambliss, *Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services*

Carolyn Chow, *Chief Business Official*

Dr. Sarah Drinkwater, *Assistant Superintendent for Student Services*

Sue Wieser, *Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources*