



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
December 5, 2014

Contact: Ken Blackstone, SCCOE
(408) 453-6514

Wall of Honor to be unveiled for Seal of Biliteracy and Pathway Awards *Board of Education to honor district partners at Dec. 10 meeting*

SAN JOSE, CA – The Santa Clara County Board of Education (SCCBOE) will honor 12 county school districts and one charter school as partners in the Seal of Biliteracy and Pathway Awards program on Dec. 10 at 5 p.m. during a special recognition agenda item. At this time, the board will also unveil a new Wall of Honor installation designed to commemorate the initiative and commitment of the SCCOE's partners to the promotion of language assets for all students.

In 2010, the Seal of Biliteracy Consortium in Santa Clara County was established by seven Local Education Agencies, including the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE), to support school districts in providing multiple opportunities for the study of world languages, while also recognizing students who attain proficiency in two or more languages.

The Seal of Biliteracy was designed to be awarded by a school, district or county office of education to those students who attain proficiency by high school graduation, while a separate Pathway Award program was established to honor elementary and middle school students who meet the requirements of demonstrating proficiency in a language in addition to English.

"We are thrilled to acknowledge the leadership demonstrated by our 13 partners with this initiative," said Board President Leon Beauchman. "They understand that the next generation of students will need to possess bilingual skills in order to engage with a rapidly changing world and communicate effectively with their peers around the globe."

The SCCBOE has actively supported the Seal of Biliteracy and Pathway Awards program since its inception as it underscores the organization's goal to improve educational equity and reduce access discrepancies to high-quality education for all students.

During the Dec. 10 meeting, the Board of Education will also honor two SCCOE programs that have been chosen as recipients of the prestigious [Golden Bell Award](#), which is presented by the California School Boards Association.