

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Contact: Ken Blackstone
(408) 453-6514

Tech for Schools Summit will answer district's pressing questions

SAN JOSE, CA – Nearly 500 educators are expected to attend the [Silicon Valley Tech for Schools Summit](#) this Friday and Saturday, an innovative professional learning event co-sponsored by the Santa Clara County Office of Education, San Mateo County Office of Education and the technology non-profit EdSurge. Based on feedback from regional educators, the event will connect teachers and administrators with startups from around the country to address common concerns and goals relating to classroom technology, as identified by districts.

“Our strong relationships with district partners have given us valuable insight into educators’ technological needs and ambitions,” said County Superintendent of Schools Jon Gundry. “I’m proud that we are offering this unique learning opportunity that is tailor-made to districts’ priorities, and continue to serve as a champion for classroom innovation.”

Hot topics at this year’s summit include student privacy, personalized learning, tools for teacher coaching and feedback and “design-based thinking” – the practice of structuring both lessons and classroom environments for optimal student success. Friday’s programming is designed primarily for school and district administrators, with sessions on topics like encouraging professional growth for staff and assessing district technology priorities. Saturday is designed for teachers and educators of all stripes, featuring talks from teacher leaders about how they integrate technology into their classroom, a student panel, and plenty of time to experiment with the latest and greatest in school technology.

“Union School District appreciates the support provided by the SCCOE’s EdTech Services Team, along with all their efforts to foster collaborations between innovative ed. tech companies and public education through events like the EdSurge Tech for School Summit,” said Andre Schwab, Union School District’s Chief Technology Officer.

Educators can [register for the event](#), which will be held at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, for free; registration includes breakfast, lunch and the opportunity to participate in a raffle for one of 15 classroom-ready tech devices.

The summit is one piece of the SCCOE’s larger efforts to promote the strategic importance of technology in the classroom. In the two months since the academic year began, the SCCOE has hosted a county-wide collaborative summit on tech tools and best practices to teach Common Core standards, as well as partnered with the U.S. Department of Education, the California Attorney General’s Office and other nonprofits to host a student data privacy workshop. Throughout the year districts can take advantage of customized professional development across a variety of technology-related topics. For more information, visit the [EdTech Services page](#) of the SCCOE’s website.

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