Greetings everyone,

I hope that you were able to relax and rejuvenate over the Labor Day weekend, and found moments to reflect on the significance of the holiday, as well. As children, Labor Day meant the end of summer, the beginning of a new school year, and the start of fall. As we matured, Labor Day has become a three-day weekend to kick off the autumn months, but with a greater significance and a meaningful purpose. What is the significance behind Labor Day—and why do we honor this day? This is a day of long-standing tradition dating over a century, and it is a day we pay tribute to millions of working women and men, honoring their sacrifices and contributions to make the fabric of our labor force strong. We honor those who make up our vast labor force; past, present and future. During these days in particular, we are grateful for school workers, healthcare workers, frontline essential workers and first responders, to name a few. Their contributions have tremendously impacted our nation in a significant manner, even more so now as we confront the COVID-19 pandemic and the other emergencies around us. We have witnessed firsthand and in our own county, the many first responders who have jumped into action to protect and ensure our safety and well-being. Furthermore, it is truly remarkable to see how our county’s schools, with the support and partnership of local agencies and businesses, have pivoted from in-person teaching to distance learning, reaching out to connect those in need with essential services during the pandemic.
I continue to be grateful for the unwavering commitment and contributions of our community during these very challenging times! Our collaborative spirit fortifies us and allows us to thrive in the face of adversity.

Be well!

Dr. Mary Ann Dewan
County Superintendent of Schools

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**Resources for Schools and Districts**

**Santa Clara County Office of Education**

**COVID-19 Testing for Educators**

COVID-19 testing will be not be hosted at the Santa Clara County Office of Education this week.

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**Mark your calendars the**

**7th Annual Inclusion Collaborative (VIRTUAL) State Conference**

The conference will take place September 23rd-24th. If you are interested in attending, or for more information on the event, click [here](#).

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**The Power of Blended Learning from the SCCOE**

The SCCOE offers a variety of online courses for educators that support learning in the current environment through the use of technology and innovative best practices. We are pleased to release *The Power of Blended Learning!* This course highlights the considerations classroom teachers should address when preparing for a blended learning environment. When best practices are adhered to, blended learning provides students greater personalization in their learning. Whether addressing learning during a health crisis or natural disaster or looking for strategies that best serve student learning at any time, this course will guide you through the
pedagogy and applications that engage your students in content and skills.

The course is free and self-paced, approximately eight hours in length, and includes resources you can use to extend your learning. It qualifies for one unit of graduate credit from University of Pacific at $80.

If you are interested in experiencing *The Power of Blended Learning* in e-book format (not as a course), access it at bit.ly/blendedsccoe.

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**SCCOE Learning Resource Portal**

Everything for teachers in one place. Learn tips and tricks for setting up virtual classrooms, access lesson resources, and take advantage of free professional learning. The resources found on the portal have been created, curated, or reviewed by the Professional Learning & Instructional Support teams at the Santa Clara County Office of Education. Please check back often on the site as these resources are updated regularly. View the site here.

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The Stronger Together - Recovery and Reopening Guide represents preliminary guidance and considerations from the Santa Clara County Office of Education in partnership with Santa Clara County Public Health Department and is provided to inform local decision making processes. As more is learned, the guidance in this document will be updated with the latest recommendations. To find out more please visit the Stronger Together web page.

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**California Collaborative for Educational Excellence-CCEE**

**Distance Learning Resources**

Free online modules to support the transition to distance learning. Presented by experienced e-learning educators, the Distance Learning Strategies series introduces topics for administrative teams preparing to design and implement distance learning plans to meet local needs to support teachers and expedite student access to online instruction. Each module is 60 minutes and introduces a distance learning topic and effective strategies for implementation. Click here to access these great resources.

**Continuity of Learning Playbooks**

The two playbooks were created to assist LEA leaders planning for teaching and learning in this new COVID-19 context: the Distance Learning Playbook and the Hybrid Learning Playbook. Each suggests nine areas of focus to guide planning:
setting goals, creating schedules, communicating with families, assessing student needs, supporting social-emotional learning, building capacity, supporting English language learners, supporting students with special needs, and leveraging ancillary programs. Both offer practical, easy-to-understand resources, tools, and tips for leadership teams to consider adopting. As equity should underline everything we do as educators, we offer equity considerations throughout. Click here for the playbooks.

#ComeBack California
ComeBack California is a campaign designed by CCEE to spotlight local educational agencies’ (LEAs) collaborative approaches to getting California’s students back to school. It focuses on sharing tools, resources, and practices to leverage partnerships and facilitate dialogue among LEAs to support each other during the pandemic. Find out more here.

Public Health Updates

Santa Clara County Downgrades to Red Tier

Santa Clara County is at the Red Risk Level under the State’s new COVID-19 reopening framework. That means certain activities can resume, and certain businesses can reopen indoor operations at reduced capacity. Some indoor businesses and activities are still too high risk to allow at this time, however, and the local order and directives ensure that people who live in the county are protected from these risks. For example, movie theaters, indoor gatherings, and indoor dining are not yet permitted to reopen under Santa Clara County’s Order. Remember to follow the more restrictive set of rules. Continue to keep your distance, wear your mask, and get tested. More details at click here.

Gov. Newsom Unveils Statewide Blueprint for a Safer Economy

The Statewide Blueprint builds on lessons learned from the first six months of the disease – and the new scientific understanding that has been collected – to
create a new system for regulating movement and COVID-19 transmissions. It includes:

- At least 21 days to expand activities beyond the initial tier to ensure California better limits the spread of the virus;
- Mandatory metrics – case rates and test positivity – to measure how widespread COVID-19 is in each county and guide what is allowed;
- A uniform state framework, with four categories instead of 58 different sets of rules;
- A more nuanced way of allowing activity: Instead of open vs. closed, sectors can be partially opened and progressively add to their operations as disease transmission decreases; and
- A new process for tightening back up again quickly when conditions worsen. Based on how prevalent COVID-19 is in each county and the extent of community spread. That color will indicate how sectors can operate.

Based on the extent of the community spread of COVID-19 in each county, a corresponding color indicates how sectors can operate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WIDESPREAD</td>
<td>Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBSTANTIAL</td>
<td>Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODERATE</td>
<td>Some indoor business operations are open with modifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINIMAL</td>
<td>Most indoor business operations are open with modifications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidance

Emerging evidence suggests a significant number of people may be infected with COVID-19 who are asymptomatic and capable of spreading the virus to others. People are now considered to be infectious 48 hours before the start of their symptoms until their isolation period ends. This makes social distancing and frequent hand washing even more critical.

- [CDC guidance: COVID-19 Symptoms](#)
- [CDC guidance: COVID-19 Protection](#)
- [CDC guidance: FAQ's](#)

Please [click on this link](#) for more valuable information and guidance about face coverings from the Santa Clara County Health Department.
An emergency care doctor explains when to wear a face mask, and how to do it the right way. Watch the video here.

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**Santa Clara County Health Department**

The Santa Clara County Health Department's risk reduction order took effect on Monday, July 13. To find out more click [here](#).

- [School Guidance](#)
- Santa Clara County Health Department: [FAQs](#)
- Santa Clara County Health Department: [COVID 19-Dashboard](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Vietnamese](#)
- Guidance for all Businesses [here](#)
- Tips for keeping customers and employees safe [here](#).

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**Free COVID-19 Testing Sites**

With more than 50 sites open across Santa Clara County, the Public Health Department continues to help more people get tested for COVID-19. Those without health insurance or those who do not provide insurance information can still get a test at those sites. For people without COVID-19 symptoms, the County currently offers indoor and drive-thru sites. People with symptoms are directed to drive-thru sites to reduce the chance of getting others sick.

To find a location near you click [here](#).

**Santa Clara County Fairgrounds** Parking Lot A (across from the blue arch)
Drive-thru, bike, and walk-up appointments
Across the street from the Fairgrounds main entrance,
344 Tully Road, San José, CA 95111
Appointments Tuesday-Friday, Sept. 8-11, 12 - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 12, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Palo Alto Art Center Auditorium
Pop-up Testing Sites in San José and Gilroy

**Overfelt High School** *(Gymnasium)*
1835 Cunningham Ave
San Jose, CA 95122
Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**South County Annex** *(formerly Antonio Del Buono Elementary)*
9300 Wren Avenue
Gilroy, CA 95020
Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Social Distancing Protocols

All Essential Businesses are required to prepare, post, and implement a Social Distancing Protocols at each of their facilities at which they are maintaining operations. Please read the complete order from the Santa Clara County Health Department. To help protect yourself if you are out in public, remain a minimum of six feet in distance from others, use face coverings properly, and wash your hands as frequently as possible.

Resources for Families

Santa Clara County Office of Education Emergency Advisory Page

National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month
Reach Out and Restore Hope

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and during these challenging times some may be experiencing feelings of anxiety, frustration and sadness, and these feelings may become overwhelming. If you or someone that you know is experiencing these thoughts learn how to find assistance and restore hope. Please contact Santa Clara County Suicide and Crisis hotline, at 24/7 toll-free 1-855-278-4204 or text HELLO to 741741.
September is National Suicide Prevention Month

The Santa Clara County Suicide & Crisis Hotline (SACS) is a 24-hour, toll-free confidential suicide prevention hotline.

CRISIS TEXT LINE

Text HELLO to 741741
Free, 24/7, Confidential

5 Action Steps for Helping Someone in Emotional Pain

Ask
"Are you thinking about suicide?"

Keep Them Safe
Reduce access to lethal items or places

Be There
Listen carefully and acknowledge their feelings

Help Them Connect
The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Number
1-800-273-8255

Stay Connected
Follow up and stay in touch after a crisis
Child Care Resource and Referral

As of July 1st the Santa Clara County Office of Education is the new Child Care Resource and Referral for Santa Clara County. The Resource and Referral Program seeks to connect families with child care and provides information about the many child care options available in our county.

Visit our county’s new child care portal to enroll in safe, licensed child care near you! You can also contact the Resource and Referral Program directly.

Portal:  [www.childcarescc.org](http://www.childcarescc.org)
Phone:  669-212-KIDS
Email:  childcarescc@sccoe.org

AlertSCC

Information is power! Now, more than ever, accurate information is critical during an emergency. Do not wait-- sign up for AlertSCC at [www.AlertSCC.org](http://www.AlertSCC.org). The system will provide emergency alerts, including evacuation notices, and status updates on your cell phone, landline, or email. Circumstances can change quickly during disasters, as shown by the current wildfires – sign up today!

Participating is Easy, Confidential, and Extremely Important

The Census is upon us, and requires every single person living in the United States to be counted once per decade. Participating in the Census ensures fair government representation, and the data collected will determine how billions in federal funds will be allocated among vital programs such as healthcare, education, and disaster recovery initiatives.

The deadline to respond to the 2020 Census is Oct. 31, 2020, visit the [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov) page today and be counted or by phone (844-330-2020).
Be Heard By November 3, 2020!

Due to the pandemic, you may have concerns regarding the November 3rd election. Registering to vote and casting your vote may appear a bit overwhelming. However, during this upcoming election it is actually easier to do both. If you have not yet registered to vote or would like to verify the status of your registration, please visit the California Voter Registration. Please note the deadline to register to vote is Oct 19, 2020, 15 days before Election Day on Nov 3, 2020. Anyone who is registered to vote will receive a ballot mailed to them automatically. Completed ballots can be returned in the free postage-paid envelope that is provided or can be placed in one of 98 conveniently located drop-boxes throughout the county.

The Registrar of Voters Office will also be open for early voting beginning on October 5, 2020 through Election Day. Voters who prefer to vote in person can still do so at any of the more than 100 Vote Centers that will be open throughout Santa Clara County starting October 31, 2020.

Adhering to COVID-19 protocols, the Vote Centers will offer sanitary, in-person options for a full spectrum of services including language and accessibility assistance. For more information visit sccvote.org/voterschoice or call 866-430-VOTE (8683). A few dates to keep in mind:

- Early voting starts at The Registrar of Voters Office Oct 5, 2020
- Register to vote by Oct 19, 2020
- Vote Centers open Oct 31, 2020
- Election day Nov 3, 2020

OUT for Safe Schools™ Campaign

Created to encourage school staff to publicly identify as supportive LGBTQ allies on campus, the OUT for Safe Schools™ Campaign lets students know that “safe spaces” are throughout the entire school campus, and that processes are in place for distance learning.

In its endeavor to create a culture of inclusion while countering bullying, harassment, social isolation, and bigotry that dramatically increase risk factors for LGBTQ persons, the SCCOE is offering to support school districts in meeting the needs of LGBTQ youth.
The SCCOE is offering supports and programs to assist schools in the following areas:

**Law and Policy**

- Federal, state and school district level laws and policies that support LGBTQ youth, families/caregivers, and the Santa Clara County community.

**LGBTQ-Inclusive Schools**

- Developing LGBTQ-inclusive learning spaces, including LGBTQ-inclusive curriculum, and providing supports that show how to be able to better answer questions from the community related to LGBTQ topics.
- Understanding how to support gender expansive and transgender students.

**Bias-Based Bullying Prevention**

- Fostering ally behavior among youth, staff and other adults.
- Learning and practicing essential intervention steps.

For more information and access to the OUT for Safe Schools information guide please click [here](#).

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**Great Plates Delivered**

The “Great Plates Delivered” program connects older adults across California to meal delivery services. Santa Clara County seniors and other adults at high risk from COVID-19 can access the program at [mysourcewise.com](http://mysourcewise.com) or by calling 408-350-3230 (option 1). For more information visit [siliconvalleystrong.org](http://siliconvalleystrong.org).

**Who is eligible for GPD?**

Participant Eligibility Requirements (coordinated by Sourcewise):

- Must be 65 or older or high-risk. High-risk includes those who are COVID-19 positive, COVID-19 exposed as documented by a public health official or medical professional or individuals with an underlying condition

- Must live alone or with one (1) program-eligible adult; must not be currently receiving assistance from other federal nutrition assistance programs

- Receive no more than $74,940 in income for a household of one (1) and $101,460 for a household of two (2), this equates to 600% of the federal poverty limit

- Must affirm an inability to prepare or obtain meals
California Parent and Youth Helpline
The California Parent and Youth Helpline provides support and resource referrals to parent and youth during the current COVID-19 pandemic, 7-days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Call or text 1-855-4APARENT (855-427-2736) for services in English, Spanish and other languages. For more information, please visit: https://caparentyouthhelpline.org/

Uplift Family Services
The Uplift Family Services' Mobile Crisis Team provides 24-hour intervention to children and teens in the community who are in acute psychological crisis. To access the 24-hour/7 days a week crisis line call 1-408-379-9085 or call toll-free 1-877-41-CRISIS (412-7474).

Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)
The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) is part of the federal government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. For information and FAQ's about FFCRA please use the links provided. Information and FAQ's

Community Meal Resources
There are a variety of resources available to the community throughout Santa Clara County. Please visit the SCCOE webpage to see local districts’ meal distribution, as well as the City of San Jose's Silicon Valley Strong page that has a map of meal availability across the county.

Announcements
The SCCOE is proud of its social distancing preparations in place to adhere to
the COVID-19 guidelines. Thus, it was not our intention, in last week’s communication, to display a photograph that contradicted the protocols we work so diligently to follow. We apologize for the error and will be more mindful of the visual representations we present to our community.