

Director's Message



By Jennifer Ann, Ed. D

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! We have been busy preparing our classrooms and schools for the return of students and staff this year and look forward to being able to welcome parents back to campuses in the coming months.

As noted in the recent back to school letter, on July 9th, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published its updated recommendations for K-12 schools. The guidance applies CDC's recommendations to the California context, in order to help K-12 schools formulate and implement plans for safe, successful, and full in-person instruction in the 2021-22 school year. This guidance will continue to be reviewed regularly by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). SCCOE would like to assure our families that we are following all of the recommendations set forth by the California Department of Public Health and the California Department of Education as we transition into the upcoming school year.

As we navigate through this new school year, it is important to reflect upon the impact that the pandemic had on our students, families and staff. To this end, SCCOE has added mental health support for students and their families (please see information below regarding Care Solace) and will continue to provide family engagement and parent training opportunities this school year. Now more than ever, it is important that we all come together to support each other.

Are You Getting Up-to-Date Information from SCCOE?

The SCCOE has implemented a new email address and phone number for questions and concerns related to attendance and to update contact information. The SCCOE's parent liaison can be reached at: parentsupport@sccoe.org or (408) 453-6654.



Coffee with the Principal

SCCOE Principals have scheduled virtual coffee chats to occur on the first Thursday of every month from 9-10am and 4-5pm. Please check with your child's teacher or principal if you need the Zoom meeting link.



Family Night: If You Give a Moose a Muffin

Come join us for a reading of the book "If You Give a Moose a Muffin! RSVP with your child's name and school to Michelle Kjellesvig at 408-392-3902 or mkjellesvig@sccoe.org. Instructions will be provided to pick up your FREE copy of the book as well as ingredients to make your own muffins. Date: Aug 24, 2021 @6pm via Zoom.



Care Solace: Chaos to Calm

If you or a family member is experiencing anxiety, stress, depression, substance abuse, or other mental health conditions, use Care Solace for expert health in navigating the mental health care system. Contact Care Solace 24/7 at 888-515-0595. To start an anonymous search go to url: caresolace.com/sccoe



SCCOE Superintendent Approves the Adoption of New Curriculum for Special Education Programs

Last Spring, the SCCOE Special Education program participated in a pilot of Unique, STARS/LINKS and TouchMath programs. Even though SCCOE teachers have been using both Unique and STARS/LINKS curriculum in their classrooms, the team wanted to engage in an official pilot program to adopt a functional reading and mathematics curriculum for the Special



Education moderate to severe classrooms. A team of 16 teachers agreed to investigate, pilot, and recommend curricula to support students in kindergarten through post secondary classes. The team worked closely under the guidance of SCCOE's Professional Learning and Instructional Support Division to develop and apply a rubric



that would help guide the curriculum selection. A



public review was held to gather feedback from interested families and a final recommendation was presented to Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D, County Superintendent of Schools.

Learning and Growing Summer Enrichment Camp!

By Gracie Trinamez

The SCCOE held its first Learning and Growing Summer Enrichment Camp from June 21 to June 25, 2021. The Summer Camp, held at two campuses, was attended by 80 SCCOE students. Students in grades kindergarten through Post Secondary had the opportunity to enjoy various activities including games, gardening, visual performing arts, painting, and digital media production.



Angels on Stage, a non-profit production company serving students with special needs, worked with middle school students on the Hester Campus to produce a theatrical play. Student smiles, the sound of laughter and positive responses made the Summer Camp fun and rewarding for all SCCOE staff who participated.

SCCOE Partners with MusicalMe

This year, the SCCOE has partnered with MusicalMe, a local organization, to offer a music enrichment program for students enrolled in selected classes at Hester, McCollam, Seven Trees, and Steinbeck. Since its founding in 1987, Music Together has communicated its basic philosophy – that all children are musical – through developmentally appropriate, research-based classes for children ages birth through kindergarten and their parents and caregivers. Hundreds of thousands of families have come to love Music Together classes....and music! Music Together classes nurture the inherent music lover in us all through play. In addition to its partnership with MusicalMe, the SCCOE School Site Council approved the purchase of special music kits for each Special Education classroom.



Garden Revitalization Project at SCCOE Special Education Sites

By Padma Ramnath

This year, the SCCOE Special Education School Site Council approved the use of funds to revitalize existing gardens and build new ones for teachers to incorporate into their educational program. The gardens, accessed by students in grades preschool through post-secondary, are bursting with grapes, squash, yam leaves, strawberries, okra, purple eggplant, peppers, zucchini, tomatoes, onions, watermelon, and even lemon trees.

At Chandler Tripp, the garden is used as an outdoor lab, to engage student senses without being over stimulating. Students have the opportunity

to explore different colors, textures, smells, and sounds in a calming, natural setting. Playing with the hose or water can be always a highlight when classes visit the garden. Students enjoy the tactile experience of feeling the texture of the soil or plant leaves as well as the smell of the fresh garden and its plants; they are also excited to pick and eat strawberries and tomatoes that they've planted.

In the garden, we work on student IEP goals such as mathematics by practicing counting; speech and language by engaging with one another; life skills such as sharing tools and taking turns; and English Language Arts through the naming and recognizing of different fruits and vegetables.

Our garden also provides opportunities for our students to improve gross and fine motor skills as they move from one garden bed to another carrying tools, soil, and water. They also use whole hand grasping and pincer grasp using a small rake and picking up seeds to plant. We are looking forward to the fruits, vegetables and flowers we will grow this school year and can't wait to share our progress with SCCOE families.



Parent Engagement Opportunities

This year the SCCOE has partnered with with Rebekah's Children's Services to provide the following therapeutic support for families (a separate flyer will be sent home by classroom teachers for these below events):

Trauma-Informed Clinical Parenting Workshops

This series helps parents to develop and implement positive parenting strategies to support their students at home and in school. Topics include managing stress and anxiety related to COVID-19; processing grief; implementing self-care; supporting their students transition back to school; identifying worries and how to support their students; communication and practical routines; empowering strategies vs. what to avoid.

One-Time Trauma-Informed Clinical Parenting Workshop

A one-time workshop to help parents develop and implement positive parenting strategies to support their students at home and in school. Topics can include any listed above.

Family Skill-Building Culinary Class

Chef Carlos Pineda and the RCS Culinary Academy and Kneaded Bakery team guide students and their families through the creation of a recipe. Class covers introductions, sanitation and safety, guided instruction and Q&A. Classes are held virtually from the commercial kitchen at RCS.

Another opportunity for parents to engage with SCCOE is to join the School Site Council (SSC). The SSC is a decision-making body that represents all stakeholders of the school community including students, parents and staff. The Council's primary charge is to develop, monitor and revise the School Plan for Student Achievement. In addition, the SSC works to allocate resources to support the plan.

For the 2021-2022 school year, the School Site Council is scheduled to meet on the following dates, from 6-8pm: September 21st, November 16th, January 18th, March 22nd and May 17th.



Back to School Forms

The SCCOE has partnered with Document Tracking Services to provide a fillable link to each of the required back to school forms for your child(ren) attending an SCCOE program. Please check our Website at: <https://bit.ly/3k7Wl2c> to access and submit these forms directly online or to print a PDF version of the forms for handing to your child's teacher directly!

In addition, the SCCOE now has an events calendar posted on its website so that parents can easily access information about upcoming events: <https://bit.ly/3sx49ya>

Attachment

Parents and guardians, please refer to the attachments for more information:

- Special Education Cluster Contact Information – new
- School Site Council Flyer
- Paraeducator Recruiting Flyer
- Attendance Matters Magnet



Website:
www.sccoe.org



Contact:
408-453-6542

PRINCIPAL CLUSTER ASSIGNMENTS & MANAGER ASSIGNMENTS

2021 – 2022

Preschool SAI/Early Start 10 classes at 5 sites PADMA RAMNATH (408) 392-3902	Elem SAI North 17 classes at 8 sites CAROLINA LLURIA (408) 392-3950	Elem SAI South 15 classes at 6 sites GRACIE TRINAMEZ (408) 392-3980
Bachrodt – 1 class Chandler Tripp – 5 classes Foothill – 1 class Marlatt – 2 classes Wool Creek – 1 class	Argonaut – 2 classes Bachrodt – 1 class Bagby – 2 classes Carson – 2 classes Orchard – 1 class Country Lane – 2 classes Seven Trees – 5 classes Santa Teresa ES – 2 classes	Baldwin – 2 classes Carolyn Clark – 2 classes Hubbard – 2 classes McCollam – 3 classes Norwood Creek – 4 classes Toyon – 2 classes
Middle School SAI 19 classes at 7 sites KATHERINE GREEN (408) 392-3901	High School SAI 19 classes at 9 sites TARSHA FOYE (408) 392-3966	DHH 13 classes at 4 sites MATTHEW DOMENICHINI (408) 392-3840
Buchser – 1 class Fischer – 2 classes Hester – 8 classes LeyVa – 3 classes Martin Murphy – 2 classes Moreland – 2 classes Orchard – 1 class	Del Mar – 2 classes Gateway – 3 classes Gilroy HS – 2 classes Monta Vista HS – 2 classes Piedmont Hills – 2 classes Santa Teresa HS – 3 classes Silver Creek – 2 classes Westmont HS – 2 classes Wilcox HS – 1 class	Dartmouth – 3 classes Hester DHH – 1 class Leigh – 3 classes Oster – 6 classes
OI/MF 19 classes at 11 sites KARESSA PAULINO (408) 392-3940	TH/PS+ 16 classes at 6 sites MICHELLE KJELLESVIG (408) 392-3960	
Anne Darling – 4 classes Anne Darling (P) – 1 class Blackford – 2 classes CHONC – 1 class Connect East – 1 class Del Mar OI – 1 class Gateway – 1 class Hester OI – 1 class Independence OI – 1 class Orchard MF – 2 classes Zarccone – 2 classes Sierramont – 2 classes	Boeger – 1 class Campbell Community – 4 classes Connect West – 4 classes Fischer TH – 1 class Independence HS – 4 classes Steinbeck – 2 classes	

INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT JOB OPPORTUNITIES



Head Start • Special Education
Educare • State Preschool
Alternative Education

Positions are available at school sites
throughout Santa Clara County
– **PERMANENT & SUBSTITUTE** –

APPLY TODAY!

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sccoe

For more information: (408) 453-6845



An illustration on a dark blue background featuring various educational symbols. At the top, two figures stand on a large blue graduation cap, one holding a diploma and the other a camera. Below them, a large open book is the central focus. To the left, a person sits at a desk with a laptop. To the right, a person stands holding a rolled-up diploma. The scene is decorated with floating icons like a checkmark, a star, and a document, along with small white plus signs.

The Special Education Department of the Santa Clara County Office of Education invites you to the **School Site Council Meeting**

Parents and community members are encouraged to participate in the School Site Council (SSC). The SSC is responsible for the development, monitoring and evaluation of school improvement programs and funding.

Day/Date:

- ❖ Tuesday, September 21, 2021
- ❖ Tuesday, November 16, 2021
- ❖ Tuesday, January 18, 2022
- ❖ Tuesday, March 22, 2022
- ❖ Tuesday, May 17, 2022

Time: 6:00-8:00pm

Zoom: <https://sccoe.zoom.us/j/91900816338?pwd=K1pJSjV6Y3hZa3RHd0Vlb01VdWEvdz09>

Meeting ID: 919 0081 6338

Passcode: 435958

Spanish translation will be provided. If you require a translator for another language, please contact the Special Education Department at: 408-453-6542