



NEWS ADVISORY

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SJ2020 to launch ‘San Jose Beyond the Bell,’ a tool to help parents navigate out-of-school time

SAN JOSE, CA—A summer learning guide and online directory, which allows parents to see the full range of educational resources that exist beyond their children’s schools, is being made available to parents, educators, and service providers in the San Jose area thanks to SJ2020, the collaborative effort to eliminate the achievement gap in local schools by the year 2020.

Research indicates that up to two-thirds of the achievement gap can be attributed to the summer learning loss that occurs when students have a lack of academic stimulation over the summer months. Most students lose the equivalent of one month of academic gains in each summer vacation, with low-income students affected the most. A report by the RAND institute suggests that participating in summer programs can help stem these losses, and yet only 25 percent of students in the United States participate in summer learning programs.

To combat that problem, the City of San Jose, in cooperation with EdJigsaw, YMCA Silicon Valley and the Santa Clara County After School Collaborative, will provide parents with an online directory that they can search for over 1,000 after-school and summer programs within their location and budget. These programs will extend from academic programs to extracurricular programs that offer developmental benefits. They will also offer a summer learning guide with links to articles and events to help parents support learning outside of school.

The **launch** of the resource will be announced at a **press event** on Thursday, April 25, 2013 from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 150 East San Fernando St., Room 229/225, in San Jose. Speakers will include **San José Mayor Chuck Reed** and Santa Clara County **Superintendent of Schools Dr. Xavier De La Torre**.

To preview the San Jose Beyond the Bell tool, please visit www.sanjosebeyondthebell.com. For more information on the map or the press event, contact Jessica Morgan, jess@edjigsaw.com, or Kristina Peralta, Kristina.peralta@sanjoseca.gov. For more information on SJ2020, visit <http://www.sccoe.org/sj2020/>.