



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **SCCOE to host Mock Trial Invitational on January 16**

**SAN JOSE, CA** – The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is jumpstarting the Mock Trial competition season by hosting more than 24 high schools from across 15 California counties during a [Mock Trial Invitational](#), 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, January 16.

“This annual competition is a unique opportunity for high school students to learn how to prepare and present a legal case before the court,” said Melissa Christie, Director of Curriculum & Instruction.

Each team will perform two trials, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, allowing students to practice as both the prosecution and defense. The Invitational will allow participants to practice their trial statements, arguments and examinations against teams outside of their respective county, and receive feedback from experienced attorney judges.

The teams will then go on to perform in a bracket-like competition throughout the month of February until one team, the county champion, is selected to go on to the State Finals March 18-19. Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools Jon Gundry will recognize county winners and participating teams during a ceremony on March 10.

“We are thrilled to be able to provide this experience to so many young citizen scholars,” Christie added. “Students who participate in Mock Trial engage in authentic learning experiences that lead to essential life skills.”

*The Santa Clara County Office of Education is located at 1290 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, Calif. 95131. For more information, contact Dr. Christina Arpante, Secondary Literacy Coordinator, Curriculum & Instruction Department, at (408) 453-6521 or [academicevents@sccoe.org](mailto:academicevents@sccoe.org).*

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