NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Ken Blackstone, SCCOE

(408) 453-6514

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9th Annual Migrant Education Parent Conference will showcase holistic approach to student success

SAN JOSE, CA – The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) will host hundreds of migrant students and families from six counties this Saturday at the 9th Annual Migrant Education Program Regional 2016 Parent Conference.

"Our Migrant Education Program's Parent Conference is a rare opportunity for parents and students to learn side by side about successfully navigating the public school and college admissions system," said County Superintendent of Schools Jon Gundry. "I am proud that our office is offering this valuable resource for a ninth year as part of our commitment to success for all students."

The SCCOE's Migrant Ed. program serves families in Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, Alameda, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties, and the Parent Conference has grown to be one of the largest such events in the state. The event is designed to highlight the many ways in which parents can advocate for their children and create a "college-going" culture at home. Session topics include the legal rights of undocumented students, how to stand out in the college admissions process, demystifying the special education system, and how to recognize signs of mental illness in children.

Event organizers placed a special emphasis on helping families build relationships with local community organizations and empowering parents to take advantage of their services throughout the year. Nine partner organizations from the education, behavioral health, social service and law enforcement sectors will be participating in the Parent Conference, connecting families with the tools to support their children academic, emotional and physical well-being.

The Migrant Education Program Regional 2016 Parent Conference will take place this Saturday, January 23, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Mt. Pleasant High School in San Jose. For more information, contact Migrant Education Director <u>Veronica Ramos</u> at (408) 453-6759 or visit the <u>Migrant Education Program Region One website</u>.