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From the County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Dewan

Greetings everyone,

October is National Emotional Wellness Month. Emotional wellness is essential to our overall well-being and ability to make connections. This is a wonderful time to pause and acknowledge pathways to take care of ourselves, develop and maintain relationships, and practice gratitude.

Vigilance to proper hygiene practices, such as washing your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol when hand washing is not an available option, sneezing and coughing into your elbow if a tissue is not available, consistently and properly wearing your face covering, as



well as maintaining a physical distance of at least six feet, has helped us, as a county, to move into the Orange Tier of the <u>California Blueprint for a Safer Economy.</u> The corresponding county <u>Revised Risk Reduction Order</u> allows for many additional activities and business operations to resume. We must all continue taking precautions - maintaining a physical distance, wearing face coverings, and moving as many activities outdoors as possible.

November 3rd is Election Day, and I encourage you to exercise your right to vote. The <u>County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters</u> provides information on how to <u>register to vote</u>, as well as a <u>complete list of polling places</u> and <u>voter drop-off</u>

<u>locations</u>. Making informed decisions on your ballot has a direct impact on funding and policy decisions that are directly connected to children's lives. The SCCOE, in partnership with the <u>Local Early Education Planning Council</u> and <u>Kids in Common</u>, launched a non-partisan, online Voter's Guide on Children's Issues at <u>sccvoteforkids.org.</u>

I encourage you to continue to tend to your self-care and your relationships, and to practice gratitude. Remember, we are stronger together.

Be well, Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D. County Superintendent of Schools

Public Health Updates

Healthy and Safe Celebrations - COVID-19 Style

Several Bay Area health officials released a joint statement on Monday, September 28. Their collective voice, while reiterating that <u>local</u> and State Health Officer Orders are still in effect, strongly recommends alternative festivities in lieu of traditional activities. Rather than trick-or-treating or costume parties, consider focusing on decorating, limiting activities to the people with whom you do not reside, and opting for virtual costume parties.



SCCOE and SCC Behavior Health Services are hosting a forum for parents to understand the public health requirements for celebrations and gathers. Learn

about ways to allow their children to participate in activities safely. October 28, 4 p.m.- 5 p.m. To register for the forum, <u>CLICK HERE</u>.



WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28, 2020 4:00 - 5:00PM

HTTPS://SCCGOV-ORG.ZOOM.US/J/95597995387

DIAL IN: 1 (669) 900-6833

MEETING ID: 955 9799 5387





Blueprint for a Safer Economy

On October 13, the County of Santa Clara moved into the Orange Tier (Tier 3) under the State's "Blueprint for a Safer Economy." The county's Revised Risk Reduction Order associated with the Orange Tier is now in effect. In general, the Order allows all businesses in the County to operate, if the State allows them to be open. Under the Revised Risk Reduction Order, several additional activities and business operations can resume, including indoor dining and indoor gatherings.

Importantly, moving into the Orange Tier *does not mean* that the Public Health Officer considers all open activities to be safe. COVID-19 continues to pose a severe risk to residents of Santa Clara County; the Public Health Officer urges residents to continue taking precautions, including staying home when possible, minimizing interaction with people outside one's household, maintaining physical distance, wearing face coverings. In addition, as indoor dining and indoor gatherings are particularly high risk activities, it is recommended that as many activities as possible are moved outdoors. Individuals over age 50, and those with serious underlying medical conditions, are at greater risk for serious illness from COVID-19.



This post was provided by the PHD Emergency Operations Center.

COVID-19 Testing Guidance

The Santa Clara County Public Health Department (SCCPHD) recommends that educators and other school staff who are working on-site, and have frequent interactions with students or the public, take a COVID-19 test and have the results prior to returning to the site. Educators and other school staff are also

encouraged to participate in surveillance testing at a cadence of at least once a month. Testing can be accessed testing through one's healthcare facilities. Symptom-free essential workers who are unable to receive testing from their healthcare facilities can inform the SCCPHD by visiting sccCOVIDconcerns.org.

Alternatively, SCCPHD offers free testing in each city in Santa Clara County one to two weekdays per month. The sites are appointment-based, allowing for a fast testing experience. The County Fairgrounds site offers large capacity appointment-based drive-through testing and is open on Saturdays. Details for each testing site and upcoming testing dates can be found at SCCFreeTest.org. *This post was provided by the PHD Emergency Operations Center.*

Santa Clara County Health Department

The Santa Clara County Health Department released a new <u>A Parent's Guide to the Reopening of Santa Clara County K-12 Schools on September 21. The document, which is available in Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese, supports parents and other</u>



caregivers as they make decisions about students' return to school campuses for in-person instruction. For more information, visit the <u>Santa Clara County Public Health Department</u>.

Flu Shot Clinic

Everyone 6 months and older needs a flu shot each year, and now is the time to get yours. Get your flu shot right away to prevent catching the flu and spreading it to teachers, classmates, coworkers, and family members and people you live with. Flu shots are even more important this year with COVID-19 also circulating widely in Santa Clara County.

The County of Santa Clara Health System offers many opportunities for anyone to get a free flu shot. No appointment needed. No health insurance needed. No cost. Everyone is welcome regardless of immigration status or where you live.

Featured Location:

Santa Clara County Fairgrounds: Car entrance for general parking Gate D, 2542 Monterey Road, San Jose, CA 95111 Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Shots available at this location for everyone 3 years and older. Children age 3-17 must be accompanied by a guardian. Children between six (6) and three (3) years old should get the flu vaccine and other scheduled vaccinations through a health care provider.

More information and other locations for free flu shots: English <u>sccphd.org/flu</u>, Spanish <u>sccphd.org/flu-es</u>, Vietnamese <u>sccphd.org/flu-vi</u>, or telephone 2-1-1.



Resources for Schools and Districts

Be Happy, Be Brave, Be Drug Free!

October 23-31 is <u>National Red Ribbon Week</u>, and its theme is "Be Happy, Be Brave, Be Drug Free"!

National Red Ribbon Week is a great opportunity to provide education on drug prevention, and invite conversations with staff, students, and parents about the importance of staying healthy and drug-free.

TUPE will be kicking off **Red Ribbon Week** by hosting a series of Peer Advocate Trainings for Middle and High School Students lasting until November 18. For more information, visit <u>Red Ribbon Week</u> or visit the <u>SCCOE Tobacco Use</u> <u>Prevention Education (TUPE)</u> To request a parent, staff or student virtual presentation, please complete this form: https://bit.ly/SCCOERedRibbon20



To learn more visit tupe.sccoe.org

Upcoming Webinars:



In support of October's Dyslexia Awareness Month, we have extended our partnership with Glean Education to provide their online Understanding & Recognizing Dyslexia for California Educators for free to all California educators and administrators. The course will be available until October 31. To enroll, visit

https://courses.gleaneducation.com/courses/dyslexia-ca?coupon=cateachers.

This course was designed for all educators (general education and special education), so please spread the word to your colleagues about this professional development opportunity. Administrators, if you'd like your school or district staff to take this free training as a cohort, please contact Jessica at jessica@gleaneducation.com to arrange for a whole-staff training announcement.

If you have any questions, please email Richard Gifford at rgifford@cde.ca.gov or Jen Buzolich at jbuzolich@cde.ca.gov.



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 <u>web page</u>.

Resources for Families



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

FIRST 5 Santa Clara and the Santa Clara County Office of Education would like to understand the experiences of families with children entering kindergarten or transitional kindergarten (TK) in fall 2020. If you have an entering kindergarten/TK student, we invite you to complete this brief confidential survey by October 23 to be entered into a raffle to win a \$100 Amazon gift card!

English: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SantaClaraPIF20-21

Español: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SP-SantaClaraPIF20-21

Tiếng Việt: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VIET-SantaClaraPIF



Let's Discover Science Together - Virtually!

The Bay Area Science Festival is celebrating their 10 year anniversary! Join the fun October 21-25.

Experience the wonder of science with over 125 FREE events hosted by an incredible collection of Bay Area universities, museums, cultural institutions, corporations, after-school groups, research labs, government agencies and libraries.

- * Daily STEM Storytime with Scientists
- * STEM at Home activities bring hands-on explorations right into your living room
- * Exciting behind-the-scenes Explorer Tours of research labs and museums
- * Lots of fun and engaging talks, conversations, games and contests

www.bayareasciencefestival.org

¡Vamos a descubrir la ciencia juntos - virtualmente!

¡Acompáñanos del 21 al 25 de octubre para celebrar el décimo aniversario del Festival de Ciencias de la Bahía!

Experimenta las maravillas de las ciencias en más de 125 eventos gratuitos organizados por una increíble colaboración de universidades, museos, instituciones culturales, corporaciones, programas extracurriculares, laboratorios, agencias gubernamentales y bibliotecas.

- * Cuentos de STEM con científicos cada día
- * Las actividades de STEM en su propio hogar traen exploraciones activas de ciencia
- * Emocionante exploraciones guiadas de laboratorios y museos
- * Muchas clases, conversaciones, juegos y concursos divertidos

www.bayareasciencefestival.org

Y Learning Labs provide a safe place for students to attend distance learning provided by the child's school, but supervised by Y staff. Y Learning Labs are for children in Kindergarten – 6th Grade.

Price per child: \$260 per week - Limited financial assistance may be available

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Hours may vary by site.)



Next Registration Cycle starts 10/19/20 and, based on COVID operating standards, Learning Lab programs run with a 3-week commitment.

Y Learning Labs with open enrollment and available slots:

- * East Valley YMCA: 1975 S. White Road, San Jose
- * Northwest YMCA: 20803 Alves Drive, Cupertino

- * El Camino YMCA: 2400 Grant Road, Mountain View
- * Palo Alto YMCA: 3412 Ross Road, Palo Alto
- * Silver Oak Elementary School: 5000 Farnsworth Drive, San Jose Evergreen District
- * Allen@Steinbeck: 820 Steinbeck Drive, San Jose San Jose Unified District

CLICK HERE for more information or to register.

#sccvotes on November 3!



November 3 is Election Day, and all Santa Clara County residents are encouraged to exercise their right to vote. The <u>County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters</u> provides information on how to <u>register to vote</u>, as well as a <u>complete list of polling places</u> and <u>voter drop-off locations</u>.

Filling in a ballot is easy as 1, 2, 3

- 1. Fill it in
- 2. Sign the envelope
- 3. Get the ballot in on time (postmarked or returned by 8pm, November 3)

For more information visit sccvote.org/voterschoice or call 866-430-VOTE (8683).

Voter's Guide on Children's Issues

It's crucial everyone understand how funding and policy decisions impact

children's lives in our county. In partnership with the <u>Local Early Education Planning Council</u>, <u>Kids in Common</u>, and <u>Strong Start of Santa Clara County</u>, the County Office of Education has launched an online Voter's Guide on Children's Issues at sccvoteforkids.org. For this guide, each candidate running for selected local, state, or federal offices in Santa Clara County was asked to answer five questions about their priorities for children. Candidates were given several weeks to



respond to the survey; the responses are in their words and are unedited.

The Voter's Guide is informational only, and no endorsement of any candidate is intended.

Silicon Valley Turkey Trot Race 2020

Are you looking for ways to support the community while staying healthy during the upcoming holiday season? A great way to do both is by joining a long-time Thanksgiving tradition in San Jose, the Silicon Valley Turkey.

Trot race. A fun run, or foot race, the Turkey Trot is held each year and encourages activity before indulging in Thanksgiving Day feasts. Even with



the race's slightly different look, the mission is the same and it will continue to raise funds to support Silicon Valley families in need. To register, click <u>here</u>.

CalHOPE Behavioral Resources

The pandemic has brought attention to issues associated with children's sensitivity to stress. A key ingredient to successfully managing stress is a healthy caregiver. The following resources are available to support students and families:

- The Playbook for Stress Relief for Caregivers and Kids during COVID-19, can be accessed from the covid19.ca.gov website.
- The Together for Wellness website, features evidence-based tools to help parents and children manage stress, and resources to support families.
- The CalHOPE Warm Line (833-317-4623) has peer counselors ready to listen, problemsolve, and connect people to resources. This is not a crisis line, but counselors with lived experience and are ready to help people deal with challenges. Counselors can directly



connect to clinical services if more immediate and urgent assistance is

Announcements

Stronger Together PSA series

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is launching the <u>Stronger Together public service announcements (PSAs) series</u>. The PSAs provide the Santa Clara County residents and beyond with useful information that reminds us of the actions everyone can take to further prevent the spread of the virus.



The first in the series, <u>COVID 19 Symptom Self-Check</u> highlights steps family, friends, and neighbors can take to protect themselves and others from COVID-19.

About the Santa Clara County Office of Education

Working collaboratively with school and community partners, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is a regional service agency that provides instructional, business, and technology services to the 31 school districts of Santa Clara County. The County Office of Education directly serves students through special education programs, alternative schools, Head Start and State Preschool programs, migrant education, and Opportunity Youth Academy. The SCCOE also provides academic and fiscal oversight and monitoring to districts in addition to the 22 Santa Clara County Board of Education authorized charter schools.









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