

Santa Clara County  Office of Education

INVESTING FOR



EQUITY • DIVERSITY • INCLUSION • PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 2024

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OPENING MESSAGE

Dear Santa Clara County Community,

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is committed to serving, inspiring, and promoting student and public school success. The State of Education address and annual report are opportunities to reflect upon achievements of the past year that inform our educational goals and highlight key initiatives and priorities.

Serving the students, families, and communities of our great county is not work that can be done alone. It is through collaboration and partnership that students and communities are able to thrive. This is reflected in the theme, *Together We...*

This year we are focusing on highlights associated with how *Together We...* impact students, advance the workforce, champion equity, and care for the planet.

It is with deep appreciation and gratitude that SCCOE acknowledges the educators and partners across the county who are hard at work motivating over 253,000 students as they become lifelong learners. Knowing we are working together to be impactful for students, public sector employees, and the planet inspires me and gives me great hope for the coming year.

While the annual report captures highlights over the course of 2023, it is important to note that the work does not end here. Remaining innovative, resourceful, and collaborative are necessary to maximize our impact for our youth.

In partnership,



Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D.

County Superintendent of Schools

 @sccsuperintendentofschools

 @sccsuperintendentofschools

 Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D.

Superintendent's Cabinet

The County Superintendent of Schools' Cabinet consists of the divisional leadership within the Santa Clara County Office of Education. Instructional services and professional development for educators and administrators are provided by the Professional Learning and Support Division and the Educational Progress Division. The Educational Services Division provides programs for students in Alternative Education, Migrant Education, Special Education, and the Head Start program. Administrative, business, and technical support for SCCOE employees is conducted through its Business, Facilities and Operations Division, Personnel Services Division, and Technology and Data Services Division.

Jessica Bonduris, Ed.D.

Associate Superintendent
Professional Learning and Support

Deborah Gorgulho, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent
Educational Progress

Teresa Shipp

Assistant Superintendent
Educational Services

Stephanie Gomez

Assistant Superintendent
Business, Facilities and Operations

Larry Oshodi

Assistant Superintendent
Personnel Services

David Wu

Head of Technology
Technology and Data Services



ABOUT US



Santa Clara County Office of Education

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is a champion of public education, serving as a premier regional resource to students, parents, educators, school districts, community agencies, and businesses.

Working collaboratively with school and community partners, the Santa Clara County Office of Education 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, migrant education, and Opportunity Youth Academy. The SCCOE also provides academic and fiscal oversight and monitoring to districts in addition to the 21 Santa Clara County Board of Education-authorized charter schools.



Mission Statement

The Santa Clara County Office of Education is committed to serving, inspiring, and promoting student and public school success.

Goals

- Improve access to inclusive, equitable, high-quality education
- Provide quality support to districts, schools, students, and communities
- Be a premier service organization

County Superintendent of Schools

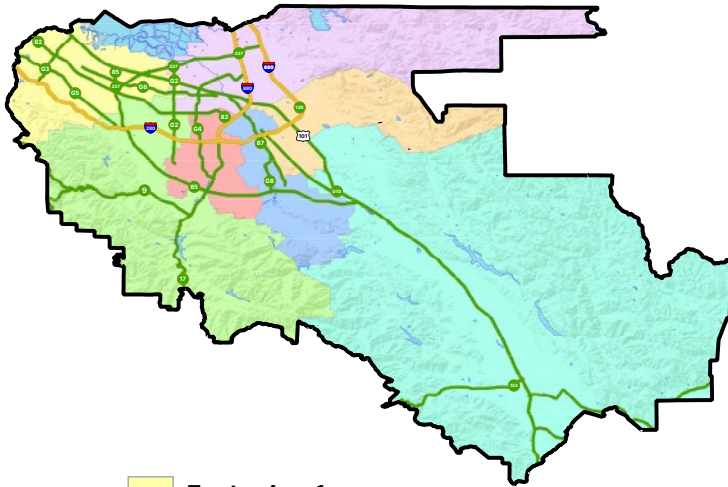
The position of County Superintendent of Schools, a public official established in the California State Constitution in 1879, has evolved to meet the changing needs of the state and its students. County Superintendents operate county offices of education as intermediate service agencies providing direct and regional support to school districts, and serve as the primary implementation arm of the California Department of Education (CDE) and State Board of Education. The responsibilities of these constitutional officers (Ed. Code Section 1240-1281) generally fall into these categories:

- Educating specific student populations in court and community schools
- Monitoring and oversight of district fiscal stability and school district Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAPs)
- Providing academic support, technical assistance, and regional support activities to districts and their schools



ABOUT US

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION



- Trustee Area 1
- Trustee Area 2
- Trustee Area 3
- Trustee Area 4
- Trustee Area 5
- Trustee Area 6
- Trustee Area 7

For more information regarding the Santa Clara County Board of Education visit <https://sccoe.to/BoardofEducation>

The Santa Clara County Board of Education (SCCBOE) has seven members who serve four-year terms and are elected from different trustee areas in the county.

Pursuant to the California Education Code, the SCCBOE approves the County School Services Fund Budget and serves as a decision-making body for countywide charter schools and as the appellate body for charter school petitions denied by local school districts, interdistrict transfer attendance requests, and student expulsions.

Maimona Afzal Berta, Area 6

Victoria Chon, Area 5

Joseph Di Salvo, Area 4

Raena Lari, Area 7

Grace H. Mah, Area 1

Don Rocha, Area 3

Tara Sreekrishnan, Area 2

SANTA CLARA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION AT A GLANCE

1,581
Employees

445
Certificated

518
Substitute/Temporary

1,136
Classified

TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

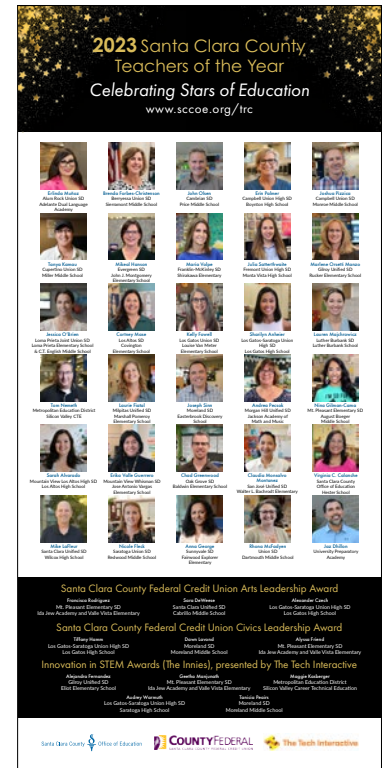
A Santa Clara County tradition for over 50 years, the Teacher Recognition Celebration is the oldest and largest celebration of teachers in California and the most prestigious local award given to classroom teachers.

Every fall, the Teacher Recognition Celebration honors the county's finest teachers, each selected by their respective school districts. In addition to the educators selected by their districts, the Santa Clara County Federal Credit Union recognizes leaders in Arts and Civics Leadership and The Tech Interactive honors educators with the Innovation in STEM Awards (Innies). The Innie Award winners showcase boldness, collaboration, curiosity, empathy, and perseverance in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Teacher Recognition is celebrated to:

- increase public awareness of the efforts and contributions of teachers and their role in helping our youth to succeed in the world;
- show appreciation for their many fine educational achievements;
- acknowledge the many years of training that teachers undertake to prepare for and stay current in their profession; and
- strengthen ties between students and teachers and bring about a greater understanding between generations.

For more information, visit <https://sccoe.to/TRC>



TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Santa Clara County's 2023 Teachers of the Year

- **Erlinda Muñoz**, Alum Rock Union School District
- **Brenda Forbes-Christenson**, Berryessa Union School District
- **John Olsen**, Cambrian School District
- **Erin Palmer**, Campbell Union High School District
- **Joshua Pizzica**, Campbell Union School District
- **Tanya Kamau**, Cupertino Union School District
- **Mikeal Hanson**, Evergreen School District
- **Maria Volpe**, Franklin-McKinley School District
- **Julia Satterthwaite**, Fremont Union High School District
- **Marlene Orsetti Manzo**, Gilroy Unified School District
- **Jessica O'Brien**, Loma Prieta Joint Union School District
- **Cortney Mase**, Los Altos School District
- **Kelly Fowell**, Los Gatos Union School District
- **Sharilyn Anheier**, Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District
- **Lauren Majchrowicz**, Luther Burbank School District
- **Tom Nemeth**, Metropolitan Education District
- **Laurie Fiala**, Milpitas Unified School District
- **Joseph Sinn**, Moreland School District
- **Andrea Pecsok**, Morgan Hill Unified School District
- **Nina Gilman-Cama**, Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District
- **Sarah Alvarado**, Mountain View Los Altos High School District
- **Erika Valle Guerrero**, Mountain View Whisman School District
- **Chad Greenwood**, Oak Grove School District
- **Claudia Monsalvo Montanez**, San José Unified School District
- **Virginia C. Calanche**, Santa Clara County Office Of Education
- **Mike LaFleur**, Santa Clara Unified School District
- **Nicole Fleck**, Saratoga Union School District
- **Anna George**, Sunnyvale School District
- **Rhona McFadyen**, Union School District
- **Jaz Dhillon**, University Preparatory Academy

Special Award Honorees

ARTS LEADERSHIP AWARD

- Francisca Rodriguez**, Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District
- Sara DeWeese**, Santa Clara Unified School District
- Alexander Czech**, Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District

CIVICS LEADERSHIP AWARD

- Tiffany Hamm**, Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District
- Dawn Lavond**, Moreland School District
- Alyssa Friend**, Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District

INNOVATION IN STEM AWARD

- Alejandra Fernandez**, Gilroy Unified School District
- Geetha Manjunath**, Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District
- Maggie Kasberger**, Metropolitan Education District
- Audrey Warmuth**, Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District
- Tancia Peairs**, Moreland School District



CLASSIFIED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

California's Classified School Employee of the Year (CSEY) Program highlights the contributions of classified school employees who support the education of California's more than six million public school students from preschool through grade twelve. The CSEY Program pays tribute to the tireless efforts of our outstanding classified school employees.

Classified positions include management and non-teaching roles that support programs and educators in schools. From school bus drivers to cafeteria workers to instructional aides, these employees are the unsung heroes who play key roles in creating a school environment that supports the whole child by promoting student achievement, safety, and health.

Santa Clara County school districts are invited to identify and honor exemplary classified school employees throughout the County for Santa Clara County's Classified School Employee of the Year award.

A selection committee reviews nominee applications and chooses the Santa Clara County Classified School Employees of the Year. The awardees were then automatically nominated for California's 2023 CSEY Award.

Nominees demonstrated excellence in each of the following areas:

- Work performance
- School and community involvement
- Leadership and commitment
- Local support (from co-workers, school administrators, community members, etc. who speak to the nominee's exemplary work)
- Enhancement (of classified school employees' image in the community and schools)
- Any other areas (the school deems exceptional and pertinent to the CSEY Award)

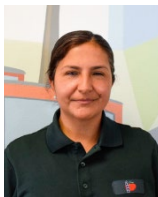
2023 Classified School Employees of the Year



CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Cheryl Snyder

Oak Grove School District



CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Luz Alcaraz

Alum Rock Union School District



FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES

Nga Duong

Oak Grove School District



HEALTH & STUDENT SERVICES

Gail Regalado

Evergreen School District



PARAPROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Sally Moti

Alum Rock Union School District



SECURITY SERVICES

Yolanda Rodriguez

Alum Rock Union School District



SKILLED TRADES SERVICES

Jose Gudino*

Campbell Union High School District



TECHNICAL SERVICES

Carin Hmieleski

Oak Grove School District



TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Yadira Quant

Alum Rock Union School District

* Named by State Superintendent, Tony Thurmond, as a 2023 California Classified School Employee of the Year.

For more information, visit <https://sccoe.to/CSEY>

SUBSTITUTE OF THE YEAR

As part of our Employee Recognition Program, the Santa Clara County Board of Education takes time each year to honor a substitute who provides continuity of service in the absence of staff.

Specifically, the Board honors substitutes for outstanding performance in carrying out duties, exceptional customer service, positive attitude, a demonstration of care and support for others, and ability to create and foster a positive school environment that motivates others. Paul Schuler, a substitute teacher at Blue Ridge High School within the Alternative Education program, is the Santa Clara County Office of Education Substitute of the Year for 2023.

Paul supports the instruction of math, English, science, social science, construction and trades, and culinary arts.

He was recognized for the positive impact he has had on Blue Ridge High School students. Paul's colleagues

shared that he can jump into a classroom, with or without lesson plans, and make the day productive for all the students.

"He is always working on relationship building, improving collaboration, and teamwork with the staff and students," said Mark Camilleri, Principal of South County Alternative Education for the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

Paul's nomination is a testament to his ability to show empathy and to help students succeed academically.

"His positive relationships with our students help our youth to communicate more effectively, work to solve problems, and support each other in completing school assignments," said Camilleri.

We appreciate and commend Paul for his hard work and dedication to Blue Ridge High School and the SCCOE.



CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS

In 1985, the California Department of Education (CDE) established the **California Distinguished Schools Program** as a method for recognizing schools that demonstrate exemplary achievements. The program seeks to recognize schools for their excellent work in one of two categories: closing the achievement gap or achieving exceptional student performance. Elementary schools and middle/high schools are recognized in alternate years; therefore, awardees hold the title for two years. Each year, two of California's Distinguished Schools awardees are eligible to become a National Association of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Distinguished Schools Awardee.

On January 6, 2023, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond announced the recipients of the 2023 California Distinguished Schools Program. **61 Santa Clara County schools were recognized, joining 294 schools state-wide.** The Santa Clara County Office of Education hosted a reception on March 30, 2023, to recognize the Santa Clara County recipients.

Santa Clara County 2023 California Distinguished Schools

Cambrian SD • Steindorf STEAM K-8 Magnet
Campbell Union SD • Marshall Lane Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • C. B. Eaton Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • John Muir Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • Abraham Lincoln Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • Montclair Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • L. P. Collins Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • Nelson S. Dilworth Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • Garden Gate Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • William Faria Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • D. J. Sedgwick Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • Murdock-Portal Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • William Regnart Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • Blue Hills Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • West Valley Elementary
Cupertino Union SD • R.I. Meyerholz Elementary
Evergreen Elementary SD • Evergreen Elementary
Evergreen Elementary SD • James Franklin Smith Elementary
Evergreen Elementary SD • Tom Matsumoto Elementary

Evergreen Elementary SD • Carolyn A. Clark Elementary
Evergreen Elementary SD • Silver Oak Elementary
Loma Prieta Joint Union Elementary SD • Loma Prieta Elementary
Los Altos Elementary SD • Almond Elementary
Los Altos Elementary SD • Covington Elementary
Los Altos Elementary SD • Loyola Elementary
Los Altos Elementary SD • Springer Elementary
Los Altos Elementary SD • Gardner Bullis Elementary
Los Altos Elementary SD • Santa Rita Elementary
Los Gatos Union Elementary SD • Blossom Hill Elementary
Milpitas Unified SD • Marshall Pomeroy Elementary
Milpitas Unified SD • Curtner Elementary
Milpitas Unified SD • John Sinnott Elementary
Milpitas Unified SD • Mabel Mattos Elementary
Moreland SD • Easterbrook Discovery
Moreland SD • Country Lane Elementary
Morgan Hill Unified SD • Charter School of Morgan Hill
Mountain View Whisman SD • Amy Imai Elementary
Mountain View Whisman SD • Stevenson Elementary
Mountain View Whisman SD • Benjamin Bubb Elementary
Palo Alto Unified SD • Ohlone Elementary
Palo Alto Unified SD • Juana Briones Elementary
Palo Alto Unified SD • Lucille M. Nixon Elementary
Palo Alto Unified SD • El Carmelo Elementary
Palo Alto Unified SD • Palo Verde Elementary
San Jose Unified SD • Los Alamitos Elementary
San Jose Unified SD • Graystone Elementary
San Jose Unified SD • Williams Elementary
Santa Clara County Office of Education • Bullis Charter
Santa Clara Unified SD • Millikin Elementary
Saratoga Union Elementary SD • Foothill Elementary
Saratoga Union Elementary SD • Saratoga Elementary
Saratoga Union Elementary SD • Argonaut Elementary
Sunnyvale SD • Cherry Chase Elementary
Sunnyvale SD • Cumberland Elementary
Sunnyvale SD • Fairwood Elementary
Union Elementary SD • Guadalupe Elementary
Union Elementary SD • Oster Elementary
Union Elementary SD • Alta Vista Elementary
Union Elementary SD • Carlton Elementary
Union Elementary SD • Noddin Elementary

2023 CHAMPIONS FOR INNOVATION

Champions for Innovation identifies current and future leaders from each division, matches them with a mentor, and provides them with the skills to effectively develop, lead, and execute projects with innovation at the center.

Permanent employees (certificated and classified) including existing managers, teachers, office staff, classroom staff, and service workers are eligible to participate in this program. Nominees for the program may be self-nominated or nominated by another employee including their supervisor, direct report, or any other SCCOE staff member.

To learn more about Champions in Innovation and to view past projects, please visit <https://sccoe.to/CFI23>

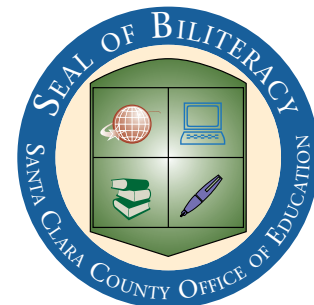
CLASS OF 2023

Champion	Project
Melisa Escarcega • Occupational Therapist, SPED/Student Services	Growing Hearts and Minds: Increasing Inclusive Opportunities on an Integrated Campus
Kristen Everett • Behavior Specialist, SPED	Mindfulness in the Classroom
Coach Rob • APE Specialist, SPED/Student Services	Post Secondary Community Inclusion: Bridging the Gap from PE to Recreation & Leisure Acquisition
Jenn Mutch • Science Coordinator, Integrated STEAM/ Professional Learning and Support Division	Waste Sorting and Sustainability at SCCOE
Marie Bobias • Director Environmental Education II, Environmental Education/Ed Services	Walden West South Garden
Gena Pacada • Inclusion Collaborative, Educational Progress Division	Heal, Dream, Create: A Makerspace Story
Justin Fallon • Administrative Assistant IV, Charter Schools Department/Executive Services	Charter Schools Policies and Procedures Manual
Ralph Davis • Special Education Teacher, Educational Service/Special Education/Severe Disabilities	Unified Language:Facilitating Language Understanding
Josephine DyLiacco • Senior Buyer, Purchasing/Business Services	Standardization • Streamlining • Sustainability
Aime Quintero • Family Advocate, Early Learning Services: Head Start	Recruitment Event Guide Book
Patricia Fierro • Administrative Data Technician, Foster/ Homeless Youth	Administrative Central Hub
Elvira Manuel • Supervisor - Payroll Services, Payroll Services (Internal), Business, Facilities & Operations Division	Attendance & Leaves: Procedures and Contacts
Ismael Gomez • Senior Network Analyst, Technology Infrastructure & Support/Technology & Data Services Division	Improving Technology Support by Process and Procedure
Ingrid Campbell • Contracts Analyst, Business, Facilities, & Operations Division	Agencywide Agreements Management System

STATE SEAL OF BILITERACY

The **State Seal of Biliteracy** was established in California in 2012 (Assembly Bill 815) to recognize high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing one or more languages in addition to English. On October 7, 2023 Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 70 into law which states that students are to be awarded the State Seal of Biliteracy when the pupil has demonstrated proficiency in English by meeting one of four specified requirements and demonstrate proficiency in one or more languages other than English by meeting one of three specified requirements. In September 2023, the Santa Clara County Office of Education partnered with five other county offices of education to create a toolkit to support LEAs in the adoption of world languages instructional materials.

- During the 2022-2023 school year, over 59,000 students in California received the Seal of Biliteracy.
- Santa Clara County ranked 4th overall in the state with the most seals awarded.
- In the spring of 2023, the Santa Clara County Office of Education recognized 2,688 graduating high school seniors with the Seal of Biliteracy certificates.
- In addition, over 600 5th and 8th grade students were recognized with the Biliteracy Attainment Recognition.



Santa Clara County School Districts/Charter Schools with Board Resolutions for a Biliteracy Pathway and Seal of Biliteracy Awards

- Alum Rock Union School District
- Berryessa Union School District
- Bullis Charter School
- Cambrian School District
- Campbell Union School District
- Campbell Union High School District
- Cupertino Union School District
- East Side Union High School District
- Escuela Popular Del Pueblo
- Evergreen School District
- Franklin-McKinley School District
- Fremont Union High School District
- Gilroy Unified School District
- Latino College Preparatory Academy
- Los Altos School District
- Los Gatos Union School District
- Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District
- Milpitas Unified School District
- Morgan Hill Unified School District
- Mount Pleasant Elementary School District
- Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District
- Oak Grove School District
- Palo Alto Unified School District
- San Jose Unified School District
- Santa Clara Unified School District
- Sunnyvale School District
- University Preparatory Academy

Santa Clara County Seal of Biliteracy Participation

2022-23

3,943

Students received the
Seal of Biliteracy

47

Schools
Participating

12

LEAS (Districts)
Participating

STATE SEAL OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Assembly Bill 24 (2017) instructed the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) to recommend a set of criteria to award students who have demonstrated excellence in civic education the **State Seal of Civic Engagement** (SSCE). On September 10, 2020, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted criteria and guidance for awarding a SSCE. To earn a SSCE, students have to demonstrate excellence in civics education and participation, as well as an understanding of the United States Constitution, the California Constitution, and the democratic system of government. In 2022, the Santa Clara County Office of Education developed local criteria for the State Seal of Civic Engagement to provide equitable and inclusive opportunities for all students to earn the seal on their high school diplomas.

Eight students from SCCOE-affiliated programs earned the seal in 2023: six students from special education programs (one from Leigh High School and five from Hester School), one student from Alternative Education, and one student from Opportunity Youth Academy.

In June 2023, a SCCOE Blue Ridge High School student earned the state seal on their high school diploma. This student was the first in a court school to receive this honor.

In 2023, the SCCOE established the Community Champion Award to promote civic engagement within Santa Clara County for K-12 students and to encourage more students to work towards earning the SSCE in 11th/12th grade.

(five students earned this award for their contributions)

2022-23 Participating County, Districts, Schools, Charters, and County Offices

Participating County	Participating Districts, Charters, County Offices Total	Participating Schools Total	Diplomas	General Education Development Certificates	Certificates of Completion	Grade 11 Transcripts	Grade 12 Transcripts	Seal Total
Santa Clara	2	5	862	0	5	2	0	869



ASSESSMENT DATA



Schools and districts within California use a vast variety of local and state data to monitor student progress and to make appropriate data-driven decisions. Data sets range from surveys, Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments (SBSA), local reading and math assessments, classroom observations, and more.

2023 state data encapsulates “COVID recovery” data – how students performed on state assessments with a complete school year uninterrupted by the global health pandemic. This data shows that 59% of Santa Clara County students met or exceeded standard in English-Language Arts (ELA). When disaggregated by grade level, there is an ascending pattern with the percentage of students who met or exceeded standard ranging from a low of 55% (3rd Grade) to a high of 66% (11th Grade). In 2023, 51% of students in Santa Clara County met or exceeded standard in Mathematics. When disaggregated by grade level, the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standard ranges from a low of 46% (11th Grade) to a high of 58% (3rd Grade). This is a reverse distribution from that experienced in ELA.

While Santa Clara County has relatively high overall performance results, student group disaggregation reveals considerable achievement gaps. Significant disparities exist between our highest performing

Figure 1. 2023 Santa Clara County SBSA ELA Results by Grade Level, Percent of Students Performing at Each Performance Level

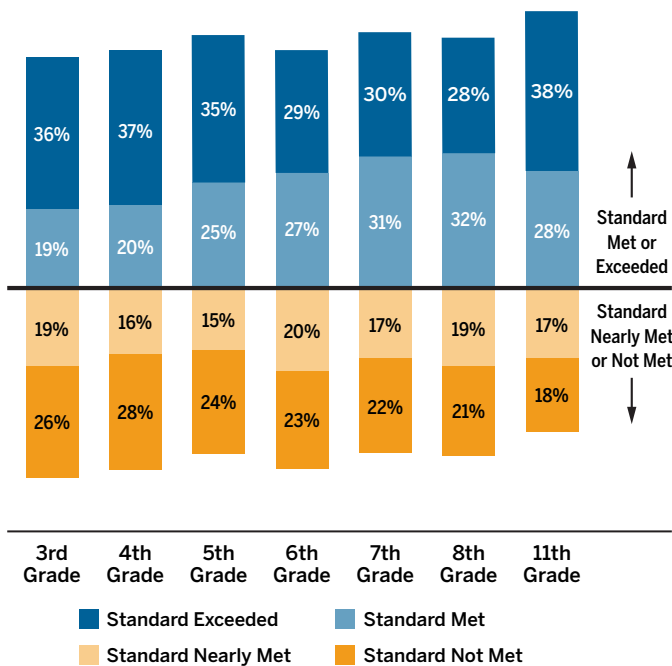
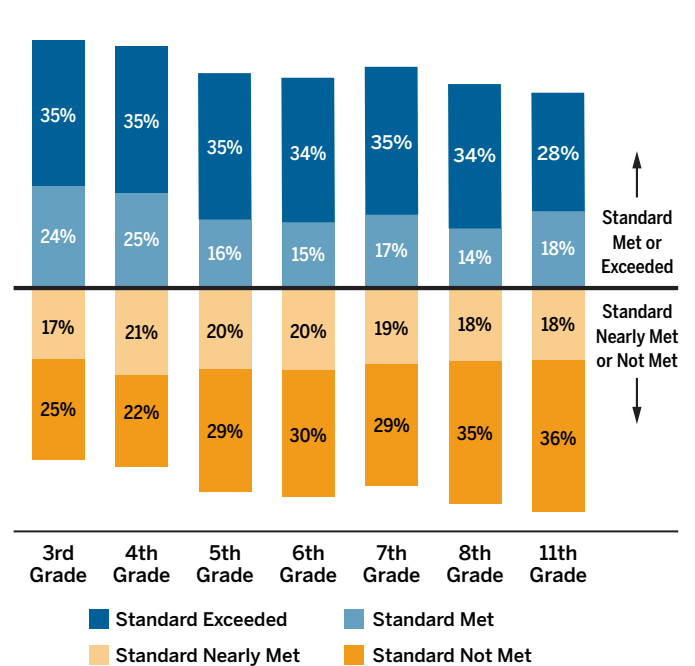


Figure 2. 2023 Santa Clara County SBSA Mathematics Results by Grade Level, Percent of Students Performing at Each Performance Level



ASSESSMENT DATA

student group in ELA at 83% meeting or exceeding standard (Asian) and our lowest performing student group at 15% meeting or exceeding standard (English Learners). Significant performance gaps exist for many of our student groups, including American Indian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Pacific Islander, English Learners, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, Students with Disabilities, Foster Youth, and Homeless Youth.

In Mathematics, when the countywide results are disaggregated by student group the same trends are evident as those discussed for ELA. Students who identify as Asian, White, or Two or More Races (or are categorized as Not English Learners, Not Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, or Not Students with Disabilities) continue to experience rates significantly above the countywide average, while the previously

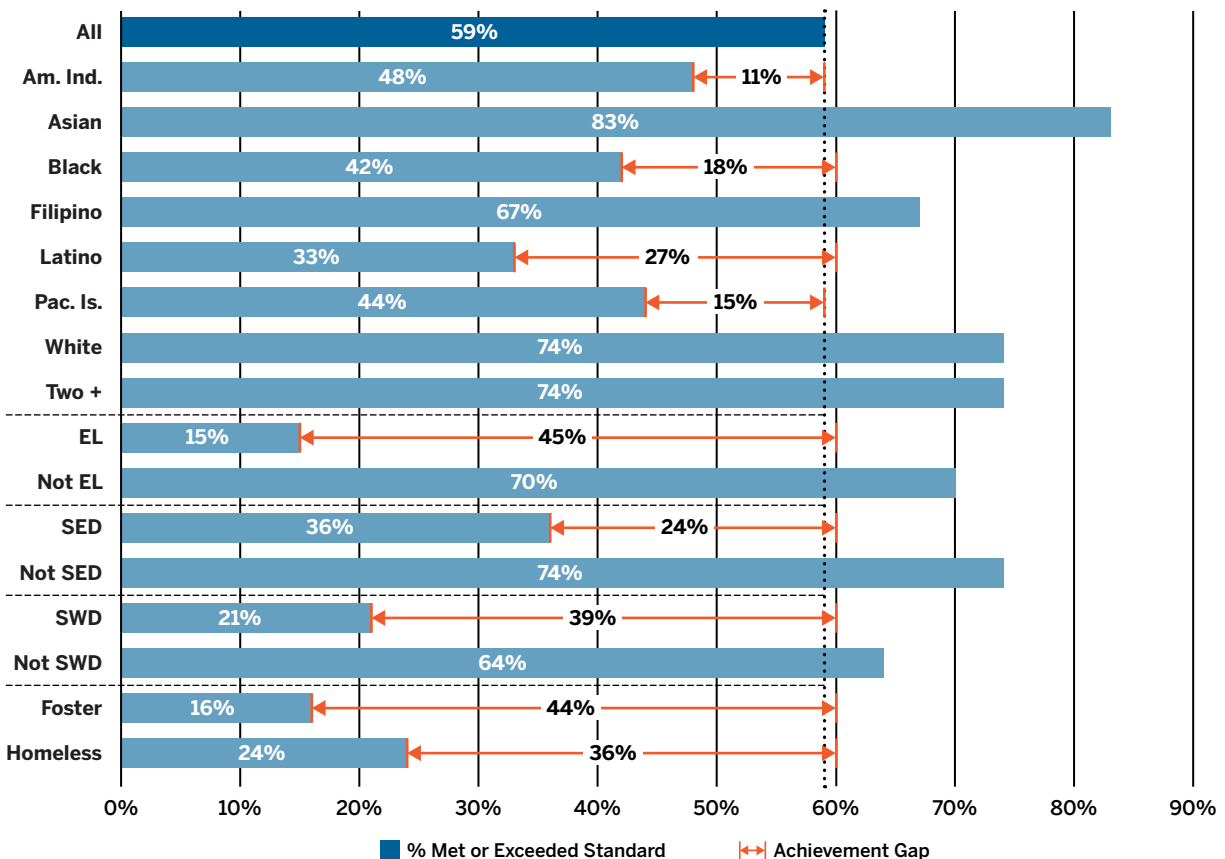
mentioned student groups continue to experience rates significantly below the countywide average.

When compared to statewide figures, Santa Clara County students tend to outperform their statewide peers in both ELA and Mathematics.

In 2023, 59% of students in Santa Clara County met or exceeded standard in ELA, compared to 47% of students statewide. However, in comparison to 2022 results, this marked a decrease of 1.2 percentage points in Santa Clara County, while statewide the decline was only 0.4 percentage points.

Similarly, in Mathematics, Santa Clara County outperformed the state by approximately 16 percentage points (51% in Santa Clara County versus 35% in California). When compared to 2022 results, Santa Clara County's results remained consistent

Figure 3. 2023 Santa Clara County SBSA ELA Results, Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard by Student Group



EL: English Learner • SED: Socio-Economically Disadvantaged • SWD: Students with Disabilities

ASSESSMENT DATA

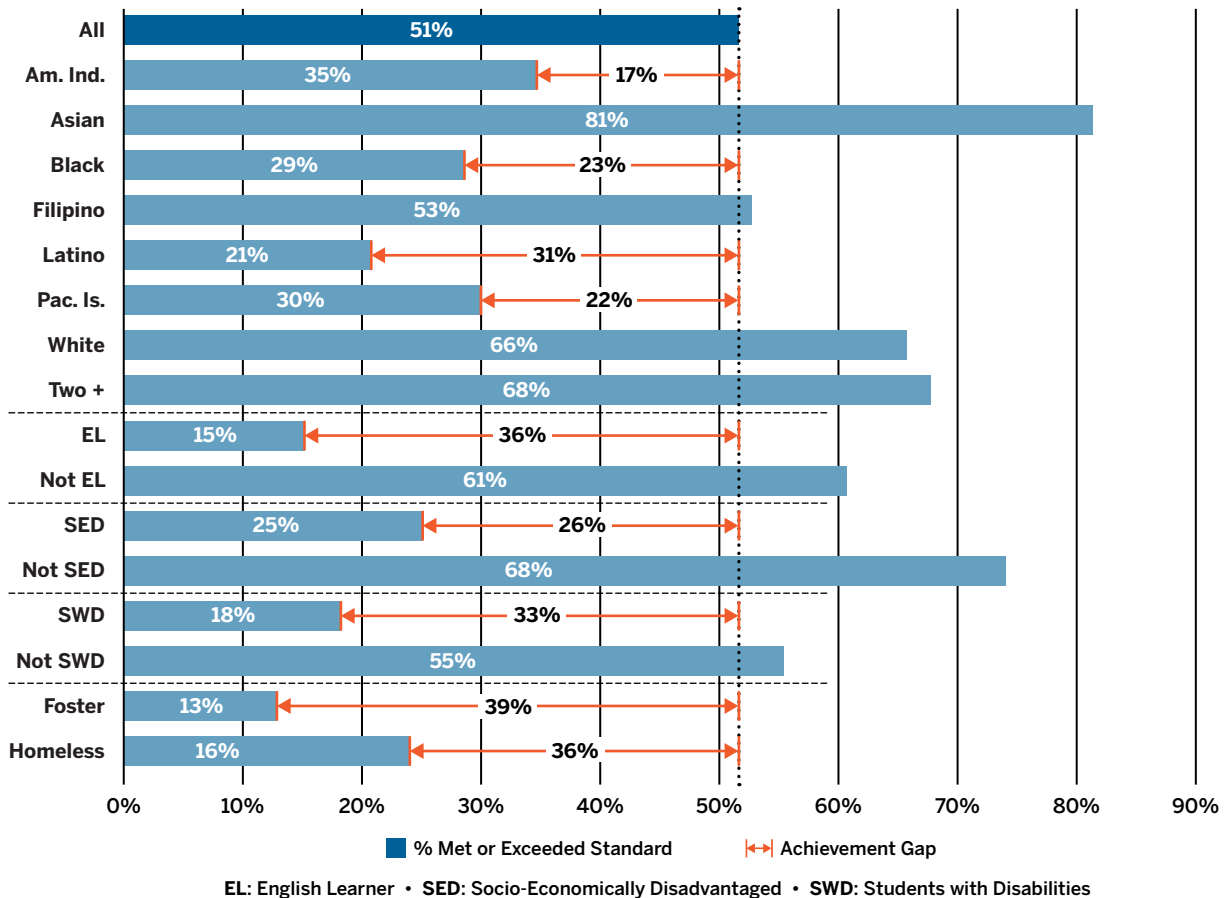
with no measurable improvement or decline, while statewide students experienced an increase of 1.2 percentage points.

Most of our county's student groups performed higher in ELA and Mathematics than their counterparts at the statewide level. However, students in the Filipino, Hispanic/Latino, Foster Youth, and Homeless Youth student groups did not perform higher in either ELA and/or Mathematics than their relative student group at the statewide level.

For more information regarding the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), please visit <https://www.caaspp.org/> and for more information regarding the California School Dashboard, please visit <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/>.



Figure 4. 2023 Santa Clara County SBSA Mathematics Results, Percent Meeting or Exceeding Standard by Student Group



ASSESSMENT DATA

Figure 5. 2023 Santa Clara County and California SBSA ELA Results by Race/Ethnicity

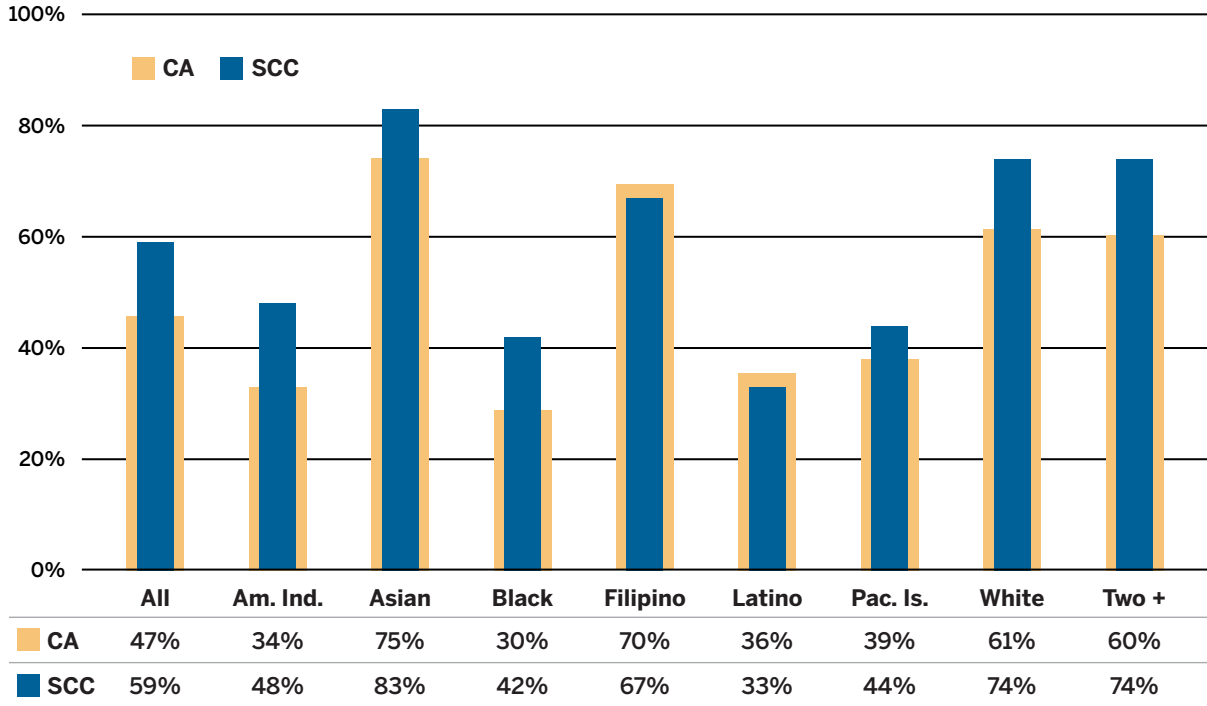
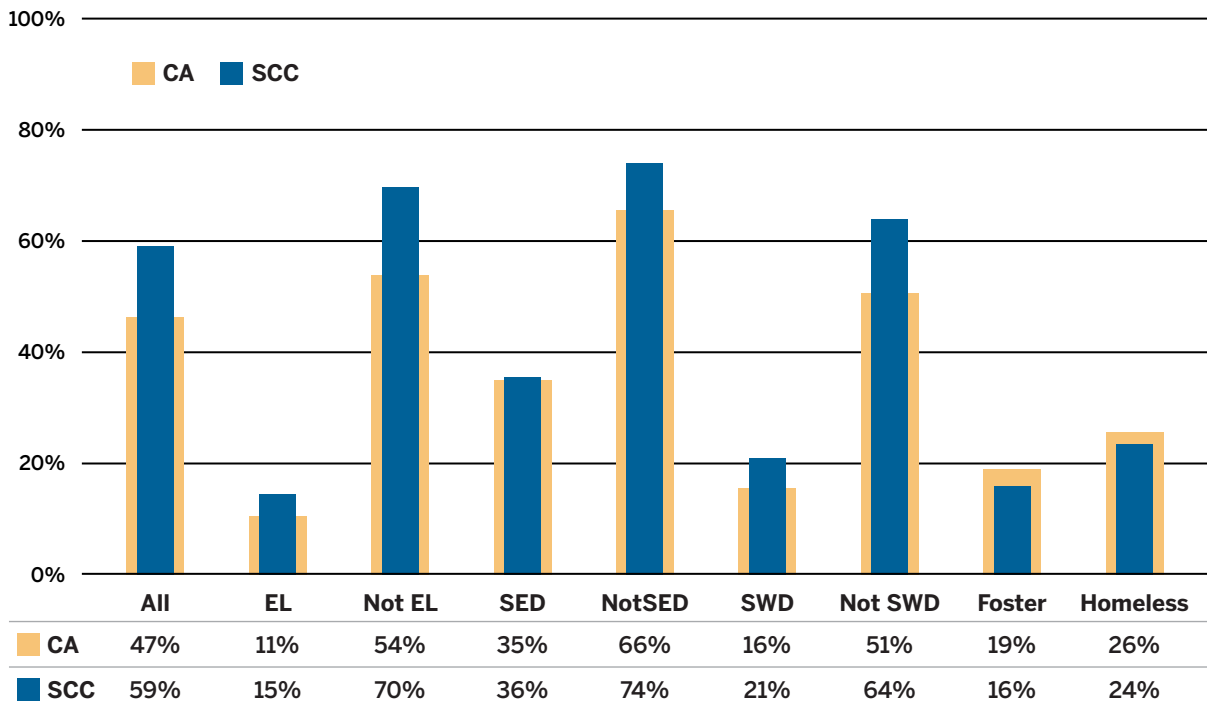


Figure 6. 2023 Santa Clara County and California SBSA ELA Results by Student Group



ASSESSMENT DATA

Figure 7. 2023 Santa Clara County and California SBSA Mathematics Results by Race/Ethnicity

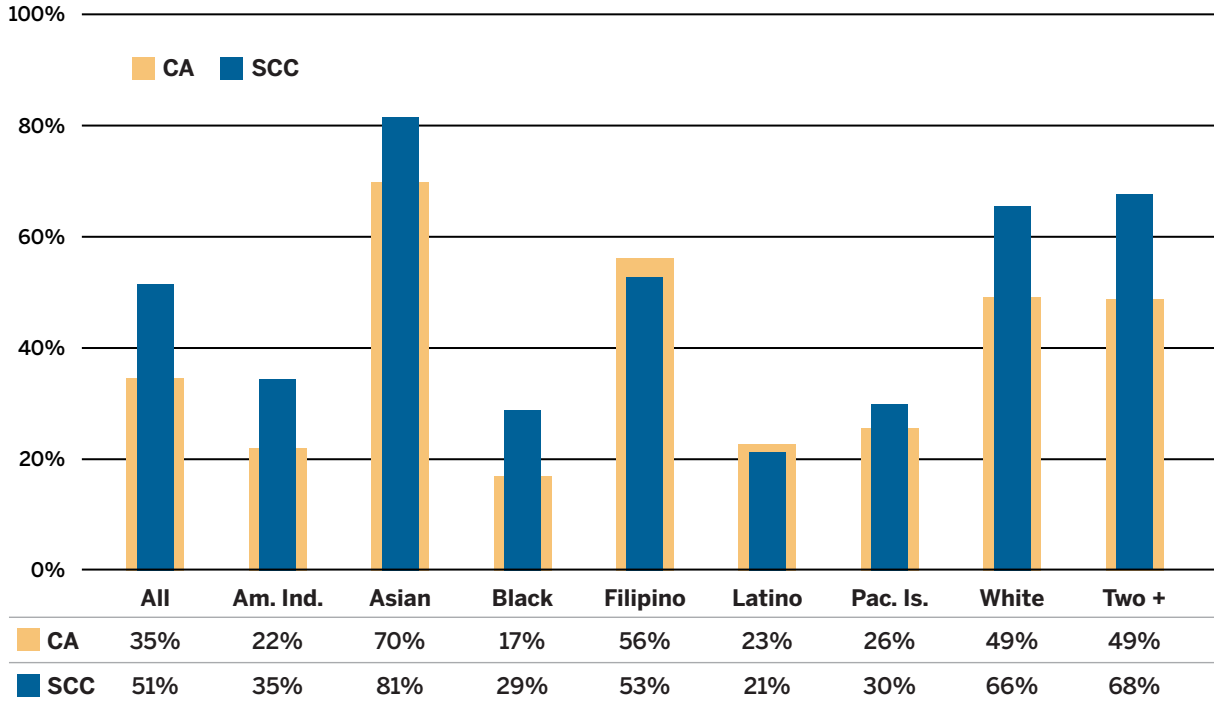
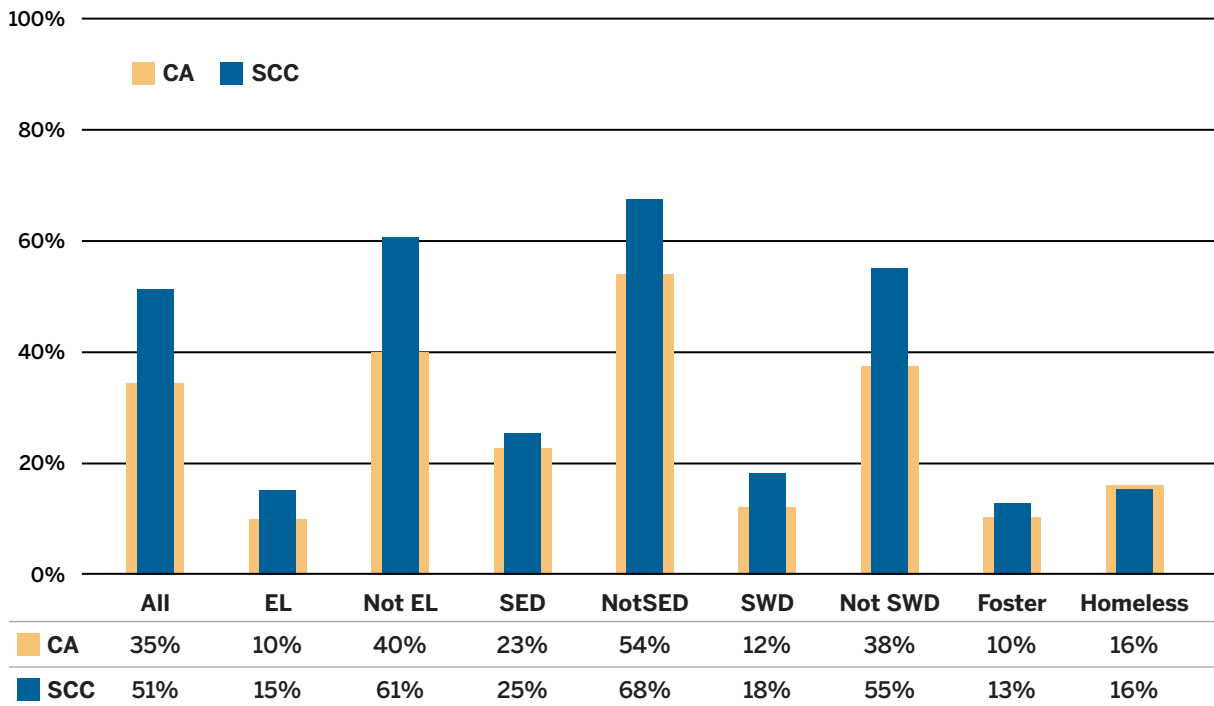


Figure 8. 2023 Santa Clara County and California SBSA Mathematics Results by Student Group



TOGETHER, WE CARE FOR THE PLANET



During the busy school day, students gather in the sunshine. They dip their hands into nutrient-rich dirt. They measure, pick, and analyze the plants they have raised since seeds. Students watch the fruits of their labor grow and change based on soil conditions, watering, and sunlight.

“Outdoor classrooms allow for students to enrich their sense of wonder and curiosity, increase their mental health and engagement levels, and explore their natural surroundings,” said Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent of Schools.

One of the goals of the program is to allow students to analyze different gardening methods while applying science and mathematics lessons. In addition to traditional gardening methods, students learn about modern gardening practices such as hydroponics and aquaponics. Plants are primarily grown using nutrients provided by water instead of soil in hydroponics, whereas aquaponics utilizes the relationship built between fish and plants. By providing eager students with multiple forms of gardening, they are able to compare and contrast their successes across the different gardening methods.

“I like being in the garden so I can watch how the plants grow and progress, how each plant is different,” said Ynes, a student at Sunol Community School.

The skills learned are not limited to gardening. Students develop and expand their cooking skills by developing

meals using the food they’ve grown in their garden. This program engages students in a farm-to-table style program with their homegrown produce, which includes chard, strawberries, squash, tomatoes, flowers, and more. For example, students grew, harvested, cleaned, and leafed seven pounds of lettuce to create chicken fajita wraps for their classmates. Students have opted to eat meals utilizing the food from the garden rather than the food from the school cafeteria.

The seeds for this project were provided by Valley Verde, an organization that promotes self-sufficiency in underserved communities through culturally informed community-based food systems to affirm food justice.

The reach of the garden is greater than the school campus. Sunol Community School has partnered with Second Harvest of Silicon Valley and donated over 6,000 pounds of food in the last three years to families in need.



TOGETHER, WE CARE FOR THE PLANET



"I want to get to a point where the kids at Sunol can say they gave away 600 heads of lettuce or 1,000 tomatoes to their families," said Eugene Santillan, Principal of Sunol Community School.

This program and those like it are not possible without the partnership of organizations throughout the county. With partnerships in different areas, students are supported in their overall health. For example, community partners provide dental and vision screening on school campuses to ensure the dental and visual health of the students regardless of socioeconomic status. By working with local partners, the community can come together to ensure youth of all ages and backgrounds are as successful as possible.

Sunol Community School had two climate fellows from the California Climate Action Corps. These fellows worked at the school during the summer to discuss what additional actions students could engage in when they returned from summer break. Some ideas included art projects, creating a curriculum, and continuing the garden. The partnership between the California Climate Action Corps and Sunol Community School allowed for data tracking in terms of impact on the climate crisis. Additionally, this fellow partnership has allowed for a more significant impact as the fellows can expand on the work already being done at the school.

"He [Eugene Santillan] is including these kids in community impact, and they get to be a part of changing the system," said Sarah Miller, a Climate Fellow at Sunol. "They are part of the solution."

By providing experiences for young people outside of the traditional learning environment, experiences in supporting the greater community and learning valuable life skills are possible. Youth who have the opportunity to participate in gardening and cooking courses are broadening their horizons in ways they may not have anticipated. The practical skills learned in courses will pay dividends to youth for years to come, and in the interim will allow them to pay back their community in tangible and practical ways.

To learn more about SCCOE programs, visit: www.sccoe.org



TOGETHER, WE CARE FOR THE PLANET

GROWING GARDENS INITIATIVE

Gardening programs have gained popularity throughout California and beyond since the early 20th century. Emerging data and studies show that youth participation in gardening programs increases a variety of youth wellness outcomes. Studies have also shown that environmental education positively impacts test scores in multiple subjects. Youth who have participated in gardening programs gain skills in food literacy, healthy eating, and vocational skills (SCCOE Growing Gardens Survey Analysis and Report, 2022). The Growing Gardens initiative has gained support and funding to further the Santa Clara County Office of Education's investment in youth and environmental outcomes. Gardens at locations such as Walden West and Sunol Community School bring gardening education straight into the hands of Santa Clara County youth.

There are over 200 school gardens in Santa Clara County

Based on a survey in January 2022 with 250 responding schools

69%

reported having a school garden

63% of those schools had school gardens for academic programs

50% for food/nutrition

30% physical health/wellness

64% socio-emotional learning

32% other

24% of those schools used the food harvested for the cafeteria or classrooms

15% for food pantry/family donations

38% for cooking activities

56% for other

93% of those schools reported students using the garden

66% teachers

24% community members

18% other

79% of respondents to the survey reported that they definitely believe a garden program would be important for the school and students

TOGETHER, WE CARE FOR THE PLANET

SUPPORTS TO SCHOOLS

A primary function of the County Office of Education is to provide support to districts and schools within the county. Some tools to support these districts and schools are communities of practice, technical assistance, and educator toolkits. Each year the United States Department of Education awards schools with a Green Ribbon School title if they meet certain sustainability measurements. The SCCOE provides technical support to schools to achieve the Green Ribbon School classification and to maintain it over years with sustainable practices and initiatives. As part of our technical assistance, the SCCOE provides Earth Week Toolkits to educators. There were over 26 hours spent in the document with 673 total readers and over 3,500 page views. Within this toolkit, there are resources for multiple age groups, career connections, and possible next steps for educators to use to provide robust and up-to-date education to students of all ages. These resources enrich learning and instruction.

9 Communities of Practice planned for the 2023-2024 school year

2 years of community

50 participants representing:

37 schools • 17 school districts • 7 community partners

5+ Regional and Statewide Conference Presentations

with 2 more scheduled for 2024!

6 School Garden tours to showcase existing programs

Technical assistance for school garden programs provided to:
30+ school sites • 6 community partners

TOGETHER, WE CARE FOR THE PLANET

WALDEN WEST OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

In 2023, **Walden West** was named by *Newsweek* as one of America's Best Summer Camps and as one of the Best Overnight Camps by *Bay Area Parent*.

For over 70 years, Walden West has provided hands-on, outdoor school experiences in the environmental sciences for the children of Santa Clara County. Walden West's main facility in the Saratoga hills uses the outdoors to teach science concepts while introducing students to natural environments. Annually, Walden West serves over 12,000 students during the school year and 2,000 more during the summer.

All Walden West programs are based on the Next Generation Science Standards and integrate Common Core objectives. In addition to a week-long residential program for fifth and sixth-grade students, Walden West has created and operates Growing Gardens for Growing Minds to engage students in outdoor garden-based lessons at their own school sites.

The popular summer programs and facility rental revenues support Outdoor School programming. Wild Things (K-1), Trail Blazers (3rd-6th), World of Wonder (2nd-7th), Leaders in Training (8th), Counselors in Training (9th) and Family Camp are led by Walden West staff members and aided by volunteer summer counselors.

Almost 1,000 high school and college students receive service learning hours each year for volunteering in the summer and during the school year at Walden West.

For more information, visit <https://scooe.to/waldenwest>



Walden West Goals

- 1. Building Community:** On trail and amongst peers, we prioritize the importance of communication, cooperation, and respect for all we interact with and encounter. This mindset enables real-life human connection that supports and tightly unifies Walden West as family.
- 2. Magic of Nature:** Walden West is located amongst one of the world's most amazing types of natural forests, the redwood forest. This unique habitat stands as a backdrop to our campers' experiences and discoveries. All campers will leave Walden West with a stronger connection to our natural world.
- 3. Student Leadership:** Walden West strives for the continual cultivation of leadership, which extends from the youngest of campers to the programming team. All staff nurture tomorrow's leaders by creating impactful programming that intentionally utilizes and supports peer leadership.
- 4. Having Fun:** Our goal is to develop life-lasting memories in a culture and climate of 'electric positivity'. This collective enthusiasm fuels an excitement that connects all of camp in unity.



TOGETHER, WE DEVELOP THE WORKFORCE

With more than 200,000 students in Santa Clara County, educators have the privilege of teaching the county's young residents, preparing them for milestones in their academic and personal lives. As families entrust their children to districts and schools throughout the county, they can be assured their children are in classrooms of the highest quality.

How do we know? The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) provides support to educators of every level, from someone considering a path to teaching to an educator continuing their education for the benefit of their students. In its commitment to promote student and public school success, the SCCOE has developed a pipeline through its **Educator Preparation Programs (EPP)** that supports individuals seeking or clearing a teaching credential, a public pupil service credential (school counselors/mental health professionals), or an administrative services credential (school administration).

From first introductions to the education field to entering the classroom, the SCCOE helps everyone navigate their role in education. Each year, the **Step into an Education Career** event is held twice to help potential educators learn about and prepare for an education career. This event provides information on how to navigate the credentialing process, compensation, retirement, and financial aid. In 2023, 169 participants attended Step into an Education Career events. An additional four job fairs were held to promote the opportunity to work and fill open positions for youth mental health and wellness, paraeducators, teachers, and classified employees.

Should individuals find their calling to teach in Santa Clara County, EPP helps them choose programs that meet their needs, timelines, and budget. Programs include **Educator Workforce Pathways** which guides and supports those becoming a credentialed educator. Partner institutions include National University, Foothill College, Mission College, San Jose State, and Santa Clara University. For those looking to teach and support students in special education, EPP's **Education Preparation for Inclusive Classrooms (EPIC)** can help individuals earn credentials for specializations,

whether they are new to teaching or are already a credentialed teacher. Educators looking to step into a leadership role can enroll in the **Leaders in Educational Administration Program (LEAP)**.

Leveraging state grants and financial aid, candidates in EPP can enter the teaching profession focused on their careers. The **Early Education Teacher Development Grant** can provide \$4,800 per year to those completing a bachelor degree in early childhood education and commit to teaching in public schools for each year they receive a grant. Two hundred twenty teacher participants (and 70 administrators) have been funded. Through the grant, two levels of scholarships are awarded to community members taking coursework as aspiring educators. Thirty-three participants pursuing a bachelor degree and teaching credentials have been awarded \$4,800 each. Forty-five participants received \$1,200 each as they pursue child development permits.

Students who are enrolled in EPP may also apply for the **Golden State Teacher Grant (GSTG)** which awards up to \$20,000 to students currently enrolled in a professional preparation program approved by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) and working towards earning their preliminary teaching or pupil personnel services credential. **From 2022-23 180 applicants in Santa Clara County were awarded more than \$3 million through the Golden State Teacher Grant.**



TOGETHER, WE DEVELOP THE WORKFORCE



While the need for teachers is ongoing, EPP is also working to bolster the school behavioral health workforce pipeline. The U.S. Department of Education awarded the SCCOE a \$976,050 grant to increase mental health professionals in schools. Through partnerships with San Jose State University and various school districts throughout the county, the goal is to recruit and retain diverse and credentialed behavioral health professionals for districts demonstrating need. Two five-year grants were secured to support this endeavor. The **Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant** facilitates the recruitment and placement of diverse Master of

Social Work and post-Master of Social Work interns in high-need community schools. They fulfill internship requirements and earn a credential. The **School-Based Mental Health Services Grant** focuses on recruiting and retaining diverse school behavioral health professionals, including school social workers and school counselors.

Knowing that students are more successful when they have diverse and highly skilled educators and counselors available to them, the EPP continues to be a valuable resource for new and returning educators.

2023 Santa Clara County Office of Education Career Fairs

Date	Event	Number of Candidates/Attendees
February 11	Step into an Education Career (Virtual)	67
March 25	Santa Clara County Teacher Recruitment Fair	451
July 8	Mental Health and Wellness Job Fair	45
August 19	Step into an Education Career (In-Person)	102
August 22	Paraeducator Job Fair	22
September 23	Classified Job Fair	314

TOGETHER, WE DEVELOP THE WORKFORCE

EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS INQUIRIES & ADVISING

Since January 2023, EPP has advised over 200 people on pathways to becoming a teacher.

Inquires Received:

483

Advising Sessions:

235

GOLDEN STATE GRANT PROGRAM

AY 2022-23 Payments Made to Participating Santa Clara County Institutions

Institution	Total Applications	Students Awarded	Total Paid	Average Payment per Student
Santa Clara County Office of Education	32	27	\$524,855	\$19,439
Stanford University	39	36	\$720,000	\$20,000
Santa Clara University	12	6	\$73,804	\$12,301
San Jose State University	166	111	\$2,000,702	\$18,024
Grand Total	249	180	\$3,319,361	\$17,441

SCHOOL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE PIPELINE

Collaborative
Partnership with
San Jose State University
and

14

Districts in
Santa Clara County

Key Achievements:

- **Diversity:** 81% of School-Based Mental Health Services Grant participants and 100% of Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant participants come from diverse backgrounds, reflecting the SCC community and the students and families served.
- \$1,189,000 to grant participants over multiple years. In our partnership with SJSU, \$669,000 is being utilized to cover tuition costs and living expenses for MHSP participants pursuing their Master of Social Work Degree and School Social Work Credential. Ten of these participants are expected to complete their programs by June 2024.

TOGETHER, WE DEVELOP THE WORKFORCE

EDUCATORS SEE INCLUSION IMPROVING STUDENT OUTCOMES

Inclusion has always been top of mind for Kyle Folck. From playing and learning on the Chandler Tripp campus where his mother was an Early Start teacher to residing at the Agnews State Hospital where his father was a program coordinator, Kyle recalls his youth spent in inclusive spaces for people of different abilities as the spark for his journey to becoming a special education teacher and most recently, a principal.



Kyle Folck, Principal, Anne Darling Cluster

With his bachelor's degree in environmental studies, Folck found himself called to learning environments similar to the ones he grew up in.

"After various paths – I did some conservation work, worked retail – I just felt like I wasn't utilizing my skills enough," Folck said. "Through those years, I always volunteered in classrooms and thought I'd like to give education a shot."

That's when he began looking at educator programs. He was introduced to the Santa Clara County Office of Education's (SCCOE) credentialing program, Education Preparation for Inclusive Classrooms (EPIC).

"All of the EPP (Educator Preparedness Program) staff really laid out a program that was based around support and connection and putting people in the right place with the right information and right support structures," Folck said, adding that his cohort was the inaugural for the program.

As Folck cleared his credentials, he recalls the professionals who were progressing in the program giving him advice that he's carried with him since then and shared with teachers he's coached as he has transitioned into leadership roles. He said having mentors and EPP staff as support was extremely helpful to his success and eased his nerves when he was given his first classroom key in 2015.

He added that before being hired by the SCCOE, he attended the annual teacher recruitment fair where

he was offered five positions on the spot. However, he accepted a position with the SCCOE after his positive experience with EPP. Folck taught an SCCOE special education program on the Westmont High School campus and then transitioned to Hester School. As he continued to grow in his educational career, Folck inquired about how he could further support special education teachers and students.

"I joined the Peer Support Program," he said, adding that the program was formerly known as the Peer Assistance and Review Program. "We were having fruitful conversations about how we could improve support for students. I had my first glimpse into coaching teachers."

With a desire to provide more support for his colleagues and to utilize his capacity, Folck looked to EPP to help him earn an administrative credential through the Leaders in Educational Administration Program (LEAP). After completing his program, Folck progressed into a new role as a program specialist. Fast forward to the 2022-23 school year, Folck began his first year as Principal of the Anne Darling Cluster, a special education program. Halfway through the school year in his new role, he said he's learned so much.

"People have very different definitions of what inclusion is," Folck said. "I see a lot of space for constructive and fruitful conversations that will help improve student outcomes."

Reflecting on his eight years working at the SCCOE, Folck shared his gratitude for the endless support he received on his path to becoming an educator and into leadership.

"From top to bottom, we have people who exude passion and want to help others," Folck said. "There is no complacency. We're all working toward the same goal."

TOGETHER, WE CHAMPION EQUITY

Be-coming a champion for equity can start as early as six years old. That is the case for Heavenly, a student in the Milpitas Unified School District, who shared she has autism with an audience of educators. She was among the seven students who participated in the “Superheroes of the Neuroverse,” student panel at the 10th Annual Inclusion Collaborative State Conference in October 2023. This annual hybrid event brings together professionals, educators, advocates, and individuals passionate about inclusion and diversity.

Since preschool, Heavenly has been a part of an early inclusion initiative offering an inclusive classroom experience for all students.

In class, Heavenly said she learned songs, how to read books, and participated in arts and crafts. Her favorite part of preschool was recess, especially because she learned to use the swings with her friends at four years old. Now, as a first grader, Heavenly solely participates in general education.

“Heavenly’s story highlights the importance of ensuring students spend the most time in the least restrictive environment, where students with diverse abilities can thrive and learn side by side,” said Sandya Lopez, Director of the Inclusion Collaborative.

In the 2022-23 school year, the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) provided several platforms for students to advocate for causes impacting them. Whether serving on the Santa Clara County Board of Education (SCCBOE), participating on student panels for inclusion or civic education, or publicly speaking about LGBTQ+ and mental health rights, students used their voices to champion equity.

“Supporting our districts to implement inclusive practices for students is one of the main goals of the SCCOE,” said Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent of Schools.

The SCCBOE currently has a student board member position filled by an SCCOE Alternative Education program student.



On November 9, 2023, the SCCBOE presented its priorities survey focusing on the areas of environmental and climate literacy, educational and systemic justice, empowering child wellness, early learning expansion, academic achievement and literacy, and workforce pathways and diversification. In response to the presentation, former Student Board Member Alvarez shared that he has been fortunate to see these areas touched on throughout his education and named an opportunity for growth.

The SCCBOE survey results revealed that empowering child wellness is one of its top priorities. Alvarez commented on this, noting that his school is fortunate to have a wellness center.

“The wellness center is a crucial part of our well-being,” said Alvarez. “Although there is some stigma associated with seeking mental health services, having a common space on campus helps us normalize asking for help.”

He expressed that he would like to see more opportunities for student leadership.

“This will encourage students to reach their fullest potential and become student advocates,” said Alvarez.

TOGETHER, WE CHAMPION EQUITY

Like Alvarez, Hannah from Los Gatos High School has had the opportunity to advocate for the resources she needs to be successful. Through her participation in student panels, Hannah has highlighted inclusion and the importance of teachers working to meet the needs listed in her Individualized Education Program (IEP).

She also participated alongside Heavenly in the “Superheroes of the Neuroverse” student panel. In front of a live audience of adult educators and advocates, Hannah shared that she has dyslexia and dyscalculia and has had an IEP since kindergarten.

“There are days I wish to be neurotypical. I may not look like I have an IEP, but I have one,” said Hannah. “Having dyslexia is hard sometimes. I have to fight to learn at the rate of everyone else.”

Hannah is part of a family of eight neurodiverse children. She shared that her siblings are not always treated equally in school.

“I saw how being included helped the mental health of my siblings who were struggling,” said Hannah.

When responding to a question asking what innovative practices she uses to help with school work, Hannah shared that AI tools, like ChatGPT, helped her prepare for Socratic seminars in Advance Placement Language Arts.

“AI is not a shortcut for everybody, but for the dyslexic community it can be a tool to help us keep up with the rest of the class,” said Hannah.

Hannah’s mother, Rose, wants an environment that addresses all learners without singling anyone out.

“Hannah took a lot of pride in her role in the student panel, which I think makes understanding her learning and the complications it brings a little bit easier on the heart,” said Rose.

In 2023, students like Hannah continued to advocate for themselves and their peers at school and throughout their community. For example, the Santa Clara County Student Wellness Advisory Group (SWAG) in collaboration with the SCCOE, launched the #HeckaWell campaign. H.E.C.K.A. Well stands

for Helping Every Child Know Authentic Wellness. The students recorded videos, spoke at the SCCBOE meeting, and participated in podcasts to advocate for and combat stigmas around mental health and wellness services.

“We are filled with a bunch of students and their parents who are academically focused, which can kind of push that notion and stigma surrounding mental health that it isn’t something to be taken seriously,” said ninth-grader Kaylee from East Side Union High School District. “I think what can help destigmatize this in general is to be talking about it more at school campuses, and amongst students.”

Being a champion for equity can also mean participating in programs that build skills for helping create safe and supportive environments for the community.

That is the case for two South County Community Schools students honored as part of the 2023 YMCA Project Cornerstone Asset Champion. Ninth-grader Abel Melisse and eighth-grader Jordan Rey were active participants in this program where they gained first-hand experience, with the guidance of a local journalist, writing their story and having it published.

“The South County Community School creates a supportive and inclusive campus that fosters a positive environment for secondary students,” wrote Melisse and Rey in their article titled *South County Community School based in Gilroy recognized by YMCA* published in *Gilroy Life*.

Throughout the year, students in Santa Clara County were part of committees, panels, leadership groups, awards submissions, and more, all of which were opportunities for students to influence their communities and education.

“Educational advocates in Santa Clara County are striving to incorporate student voice where decisions are made,” said Dr. Dewan. “There is value in listening to youth, as they are our future change makers and leaders.”

To learn more about SCCOE programs, visit:

www.sccoe.org

TOGETHER, WE IMPACT STUDENTS

By Caring for the Planet, Developing the Workforce, and Championing Equity, Together, We Have an Impact on Students.

Together, We Impact Students

“Civic engagement means we are uplifting each other as a community, and we are able to work with each other to where we benefit each other in numerous ways from socially, to financially, and even in educational matters.”

– Ashton, Dr. TJ Owens Gilroy Early College Academy



Together, We Develop the Workforce

“At South County Annex I feel like it’s different because it’s such a small group of kids. [The teachers are] more like your parents. They’ll just call me and say come to school and push me and motivate me.”

– Isolyn, South County Community School Graduate



TOGETHER, WE IMPACT STUDENTS

Together, We Care for the Planet

“We’re dealing with more challenges in California with all the air pollution that has recently been put on us and youth, we can really develop sustainability habits at our school quickly when we’re young.”

– Tanner, Independence High School



Together, We Champion Equity

“The wellness center is a crucial part of our well-being. Although there is some stigma associated with seeking mental health services, having a common space on campus helps us normalize asking for help.”

– Santa Clara County Board of Education Student Board Member Alvarez

TOGETHER, WE IMPACT STUDENTS

EARLY LEARNING SERVICES



Our Early Learning Services (ELS) Department delivers comprehensive child development education, health, and social services that enrich the lives of children and families. Our ELS programs support the growth and development of children from birth to age 5. We promote school readiness of young children from low-income families through local programs.

Our Preschool Centers provide quality educational programs with part-day and full-day classroom sessions at the following locations:

Anne Darling	Calaveras
Chandler Tripp	Christopher
Christopher Ranch	Dahl
Edenvale	Educare
Foothill	Gilroy
Glenview	Hollister
KR Smith	Luther Burbank
Lyndale	McKinley
Rouleau	San Antonio
Snell	Stonegate
Wool Creek	Early Head Start

Classroom activities are individualized and developmentally appropriate. Children are given opportunities to learn through a combination of self-initiated and teacher-directed activities. We implement curriculum according to developmentally appropriate practices, California State Learning Foundations for Preschool, Head Start Performance Standards, and the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework. The preschool program provides children with opportunities to develop the skills and confidence necessary to succeed in Head Start and be prepared for kindergarten.

The Creative Curriculum is implemented in all preschool classrooms. It is research-based and links to the California State Department of Education Preschool Learning Foundations and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework. This comprehensive curriculum includes teaching methods that are strength based and appropriate for all children. It promotes development in language, literacy, mathematics, science, creative arts, social emotional, approaches to learning, physical, and health skills and is appropriate for all children, including dual language learners and children with special needs.

The classroom is set up into specific interest areas to support the curriculum and allow children to find and use materials of particular interest to them. The preschool interest areas consist of blocks, dramatic play, toys and games, arts, library, discovery, sand and water, music and movement, and computers.

Our programs require that all newly enrolled children be screened in the areas of behavior, sensory (vision and hearing), and development within 45 days of entry into the program. Most children are screened each year on Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ-SE and ASQ-3). ASQ-SE is a behavioral screening tool. ASQ-3 screens for communication, gross and fine motor skills, problem solving, and personal social skills. (Children with IEP and attending inclusion classrooms are screened only on ASQ-SE.)

Transition to kindergarten is a process, not a one-time event. Head Start supports parents in

TOGETHER, WE IMPACT STUDENTS

EARLY LEARNING SERVICES

Early Learning Services Children and Families Served for 2022-23

HEAD START

1,055 Children
1,012 Families

EARLY HEAD START

341 Children
320 Families



preparing children for kindergarten by providing information, making connections, and bringing kindergarten teachers to speak with parents. As part of the parent conference process teachers and parents collaboratively write a transition plan for the child. There are also meetings for parents and caregivers to share concerns, ask questions, and support each other during the months before a child enters kindergarten.

Throughout the school year, children learn school readiness skills including social skills, which prepare them for kindergarten. Teachers discuss the child's growth during home visits and parent conferences. Children progress in skills such as getting along with others, listening, hand-eye coordination, learning the alphabet, counting, and using words to express feelings or ideas.

Classroom transition activities are provided. Children can visit a kindergarten classroom, learn about kindergarten behaviors, expectations, and express feelings about going to kindergarten.

Average Monthly Enrollment

- Head Start Program monthly average enrollment was 48.1% of funded enrollment.
- The Early Head Start (EHS) Program monthly average enrollment was 36.5% of funded enrollment.

Eligible Children Served

- Head Start Program served 19.3% of eligible preschool children in Santa Clara County and 20.2% of eligible preschool children in San Benito County.
- Of the eligible preschool children, 27.2% were served in Santa Clara and San Benito counties.
- The EHS Program served 2.3% of the eligible children under the age of three years old in both Santa Clara and San Benito counties.

For more information, visit <https://sccoe.to/ELS>

TOGETHER, WE IMPACT STUDENTS

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION GRADUATES

The Alternative Education Department (AED) provides educational services for students who have been unsuccessful in other educational settings for a variety of reasons, including, but not limited to: social, emotional, economic, and legal issues. The Alternative Education Department serves at-risk and incarcerated youth in two types of settings: (1) Juvenile Probation Department facilities—Juvenile Hall, Ranch facilities, and Alternative Collaborative Programs; and (2) Community Schools serving students released from their home districts.

The Santa Clara County Office of Education Alternative Education Department is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and provides an educational environment that promotes the development of literacy, 21st century skills, resiliency, and appropriate social skills that will help our students to have a successful life. AED also provides opportunities for preparation for future employment through job development, Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses and the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET).



Alternative Education Graduates 2022-23

639 Students Served

55 Graduates

MIGRANT EDUCATION REGION 1

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) serves as the Region 1 hub for migrant education—serving Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, San Benito, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz counties.

Operating under the slogan **“Nuestro Propósito: ¡Servir a los estudiantes migrantes!”** which translates to “our purpose is to serve the migrant students in our region.”

As the regional hub, the SCCOE ensures that the federal goals are implemented locally in a way that

provides the greatest benefit to the migrant students and their families.

The general purpose of the Migrant Education Program is to ensure that migrant children fully benefit from the same free public education and support services provided to other children. To achieve this purpose, the Migrant Education Program collaborates with local educational agencies to address the health and educational needs of migrant children to better enable migrant children to succeed.

Migrant Education Region 1

4,667 Eligible Children

9,542 Services Provided

TOGETHER, WE IMPACT STUDENTS

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH ACADEMY (OYA)

Opportunity Youth Academy
2022-23

733
Students Served

133
Graduates

31
Graduates in the Fall Class

The Opportunity Youth Academy (OYA) strives to break the cycle of poverty by providing high school students, who have dropped out of or are otherwise disengaged from school, the opportunity to complete their high school education. OYA's organizational mission is to provide a premier high school dropout recovery program engaging students through relationship-focused, high tech, and rigorous learning experiences resulting in students and graduates being "Ready to Learn, Ready to Work and Ready to Live"

The OYA standards-based curriculum is designed to prepare students for fulfilling lives in a global economy with a strong emphasis on real life skills which can be transferred to the world of work and/or higher education. Through the creation of student, school, business, and community partnerships focused on a highly relevant and research-based curriculum model applied to real-world situations, OYA prepares students to be lifelong learners who are ready to be contributing members of society.



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

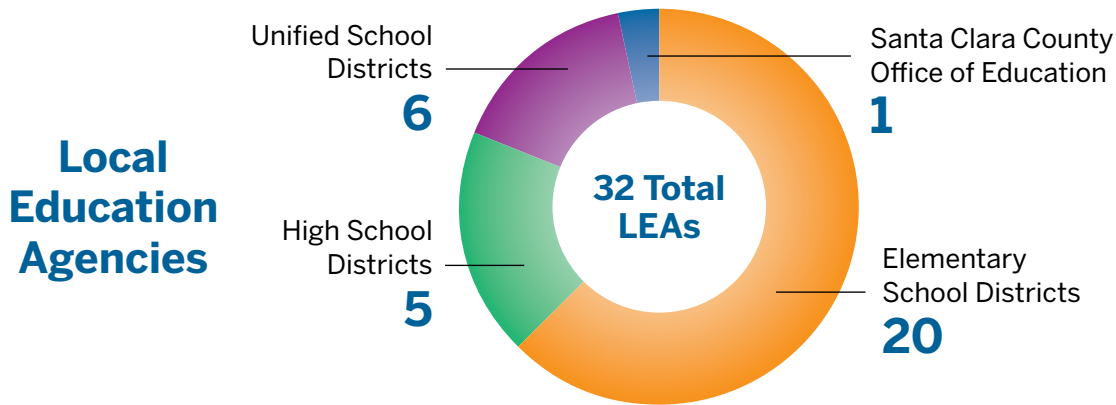
Santa Clara County by the Numbers

LEAs
32

Total Enrollment
236,428

Number of Schools
406

Source: CDE, Dataquest 2022-23



Public School Sites

Traditional Schools*	
Elementary	253
Intermediate/Middle School	60
Junior High	5
High School	57
K - 12	4
Charter **	63
Total	378

Non-Traditional Schools/Programs	
Alternative	11
Community Day	2
Continuation	11
Metro Ed	1
Other ***	3
Total	28

All Schools 406

Source: CDE, EdData 2022-23

Source: CDE, EdData 2022-23

* Traditional Schools total excludes: Continuation, Community Day, Alternative, Special Education, and other types of non-traditional schools

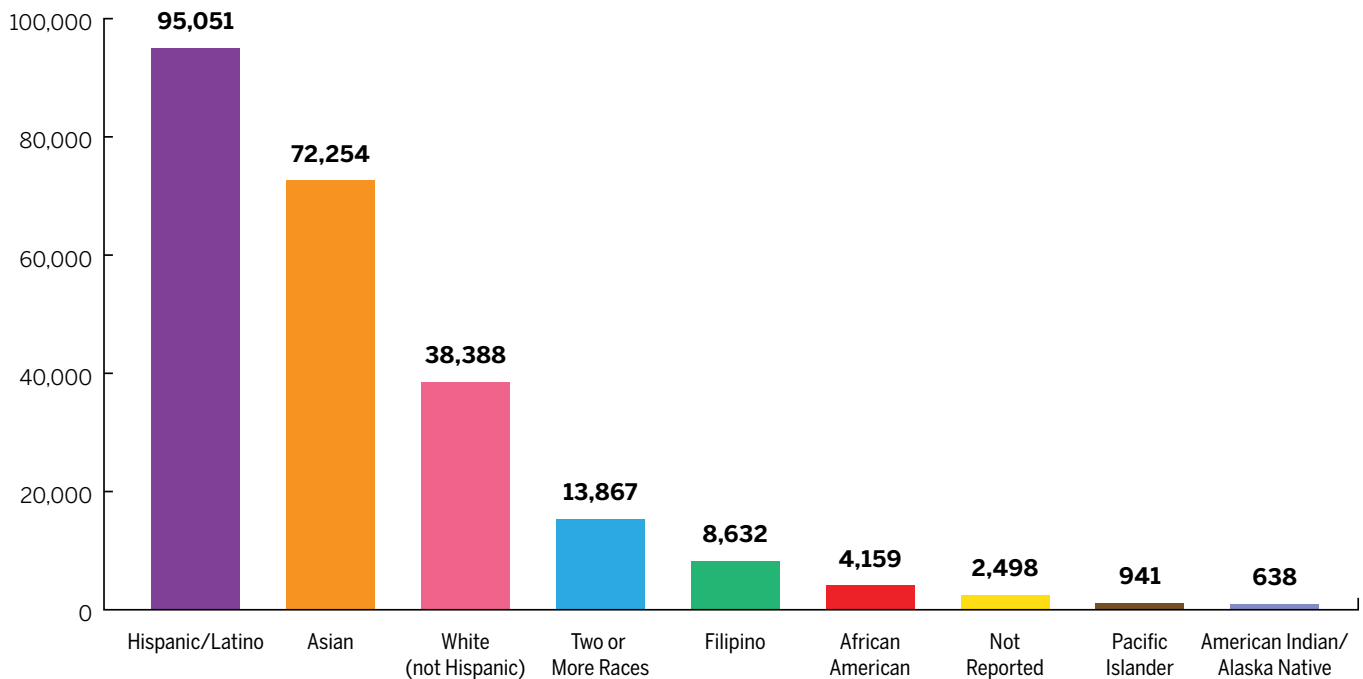
** Included in elementary, middle, and high school counts

*** Other schools include: County Community, Juvenile Court School, and Special Education

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Enrollment By Ethnic Group

Source: CDE, Dataquest 2022-23



Student Groups

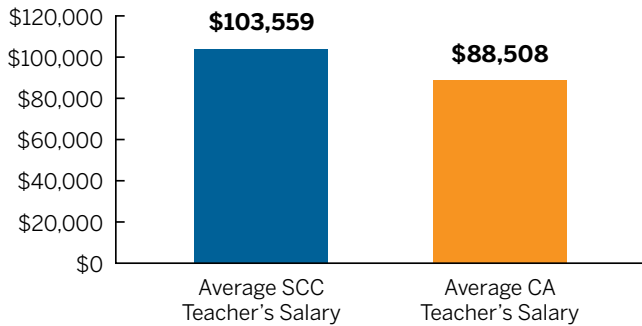
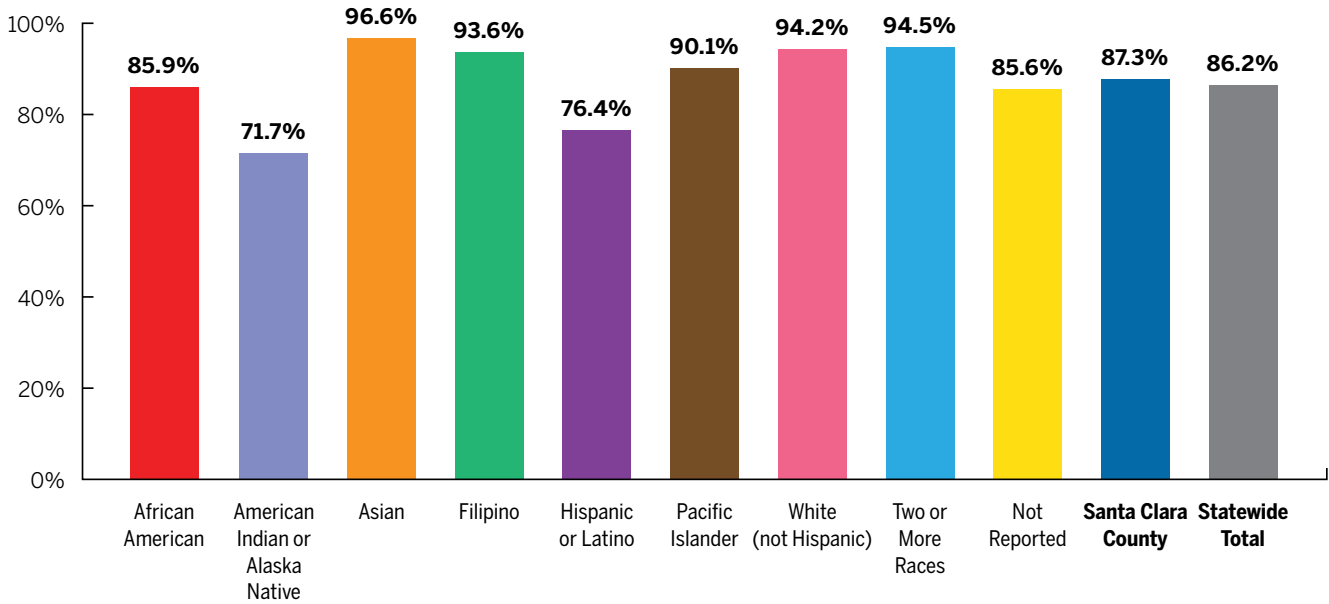
	Number of Students	%
English Learners	53,180	22.5%
Foster Youth	328	0.1%
Homeless Youth	4,452	1.9%
Migrant Education	450	0.2%
Socioeconomic Disadvantaged	88,669	37.5%
Special Education	27,558	11.7%

Source: CDE, Dataquest 2022-23

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Santa Clara County Graduation Rates by Ethnicity/Race 2023

Source: CDE, Dataquest 2022-23



Santa Clara County Teachers

Number of full-time teachers

11,666

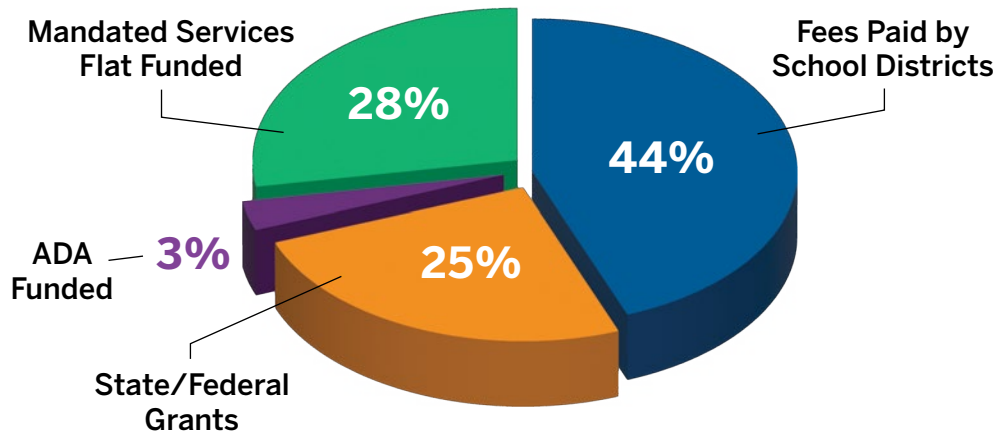
Source: CDE, Dataquest 2021-22



COUNTY SCHOOLS SERVICES FUND

Revenue Sources

Fiscal Year 2022-23 Revenues = \$340,417,478 (County School Service Fund)



- Fees Paid by School Districts: Special Education, Community School, Technology-External, Walden West, Teacher Credentialing, Professional Development
- Mandated Services Flat Funded for County Operations: District Business Advisory Services, Internal Business Services, Maintenance & Operations, Technology-Internal, Human Resources, Charter School Department
- State/Federal Grants: Head Start, Early Start, Safe & Drug Free Schools, Migrant Education, other Categorical Programs
- Average Daily Attendance (ADA) Funded is based on the attendance of pupils in Opportunity Youth Academy Charter and Alternative Education





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