Message from Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, County Superintendent of Schools

Dear Santa Clara County Community,

The growing number of fentanyl overdoses and poisonings is a crisis among youth. Fake prescription pills, commonly laced with fentanyl, are sold on social media platforms making them available to anyone with a smartphone.

It’s important for the greater community to be informed about the dangers of fentanyl, the action to take in the event of an overdose, and how to access supports for substance use. The Santa Clara County Office of Education, in partnership with the Santa Clara County Opioid Overdose Prevent Program (SCCOOPP), and Santa Clara County Behavioral Services Department, continues to hold free Narcan/Naloxone trainings and distributions for those who work in educational environments and for the Santa Clara County community.

The next training and distribution is Monday, January 9 at our Ridder Park location from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The purpose of these trainings and distributions is to bring awareness about opioid overdoses and the dangers of fentanyl, while empowering the Santa Clara County community to prevent further loss of life to substances. High School youth accompanied by an adult are invited to attend these community events, as they can help spread awareness among their peers.

Keeping an open dialogue with youth can encourage them to make healthy and safe choices as individuals and as emerging community leaders.

We are #StrongerTogether.
Be well,

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

SCCOE News

Visit the SCCOE Newsroom for the latest news and updates.

Community News and Resources

Celebrate the holiday season with a festive traditional Filipino craft. Join Park Interpreter Katrina at Martial Cottle Park to make parols, colorful star-shaped lanterns that are a Filipino holiday tradition.

This craft activity honors the Filipino farmworkers who worked on Cottle Ranch in the mid-20th century.
Registration is not required. This is a drop-in on Saturday, December 17 from 1 - 3 p.m. Craft materials will be provided. For details, visit https://parks.sccgov.org/plan-your-visit/programs-events/public-programs

Winter Reading

Winter Reading will run from January 1 - January 31, 2023, with pre-registration from December 12-31, 2022. Children, teens, adults and families can all sign up on their own, or they can sign up under one big group as part of a class, book club or other large party. All who participate are eligible to win fun and exciting prizes. Local educators are encouraged to pre-register their class(es) between December 12 - 31, 2022 and get ready to read and learn together as a group. For more details, visit https://www.sjpl.org/winter

Silicon Valley Reads Kickoff

Silicon Valley Reads Kickoff
Registration is now open for Silicon Valley Reads kickoff event. Mercury News columnist Sal Pizarro will moderate the conversation with all three featured authors: Tommy Orange, Amanda Skenandore and Kai Harris. Don't miss out on the opportunity to have your books signed by the authors after the event.

The event will be on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 7 p.m. at the Visual and Performing Arts Center at De Anza College. It will be simultaneously live-streamed by the Commonwealth Club of Silicon Valley. Please register for this free event.

District News and Resources

What if you could build a better world? The Jacobs Institute for Innovation in Education at the University of San Diego is calling for middle and high school educators to join us in our effort to make a local and global impact. In the 2023 Jacobs Teen Innovation Challenge, educators and teenagers will develop an innovator’s mindset and the skills to create solutions to local and global problems.
The Santa Clara County Office of Education announces the 2023 Young Artist Showcase. This showcase is open to public school students, grades Pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, in Santa Clara County. Some students will have their artwork accepted into the permanent exhibit of student artwork located within the SCCOE campuses as well as showcased at the virtual Young Artist Showcase Celebration on May 9, 2023, celebrating Arts Education Month in California.

This year’s artwork theme, ‘Hope in a New Era’, encourages youth to reimagine, through the arts and creativity, a new era of creative freedom and expression. This new space in time can involve a new way of thinking, learning, and interacting with new possibilities and new ways or reinforce meaningful ways to engage with friends, family, work, school, community spaces, and our natural environments.

To submit artwork, visit https://sccoe.to/YAS2023SubmissionForm
For more information, visit https://www.sccoe.org/arts/yas
The 3M Young Scientist Challenge is open now through Thursday, April 27. The challenge gives students in grades 5–8 the chance to change their world for the better with a single innovative idea. This premier science competition is a one-of-a-kind project-based learning opportunity designed to spark creativity, collaboration, and connection for students from every background. For more information about the 3M Young Scientist Challenge, visit https://youngscientistlab.com/

Health & Wellness

In support of the public health response to opioid-related overdose deaths, the SCCOE, in collaboration with the Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services and Santa Clara County Opioid Overdose Prevention Project (SCCOOPP), recently launched the Naloxone Training and Distribution Project. The project has established partnerships with schools to facilitate training to volunteer school staff and community members on the emergency administration of naloxone and distribute free Narcan kits to schools and at community events.

The SCCOE, in partnership with the Santa Clara County Opioid Overdose Prevention Project and Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services, invites families, students, and community members to join us for a community event that will include training on administering Narcan, a presentation and panel discussion on the current opioid crisis and prevention measures, and free Narcan kit distribution.

The next Naloxone training and distribution will be on Monday, January 9 from 5:30 -7 p.m. at 1290 Ridder Park Drive in San Jose. To register, please visit https://na.eventscloud.com/728816

Naloxone Training and Distribution Community Event
The County of Santa Clara Public Health Department’s Sexual Health & Harm Reduction Program is happy to announce the launch of the 2023 Viral Video Contest this month for Santa Clara County high school-age youth. According to the CDC, 1 in 2 sexually active youth will get an STI by age 25 and most will not know it. This is an exciting opportunity for Santa Clara County high school students to address this staggering statistic by creating a short video (30-90 seconds) that addresses stigma around STIs and testing, encourages safer sexual practices, and promotes healthy relationships. Winning students will be awarded up to $1,500 for themselves and $500 for their high school. The submission deadline is March 12, 2023.

Watch and share this short video about the Viral Video Contest. For more information and to see winning videos from previous years, go to GoViralSCC.org.
During inclement weather, warming centers, and expanded shelter services are available and a list of warming centers and shelters will appear below. Please call 2-1-1 for information on expanded shelters and additional services in Santa Clara County.

Due to the rain and cold temperatures, especially in South Santa Clara County areas, the County Office of Supportive Housing is securing additional after-hours shelter beds for people experiencing homelessness. Call 408-278-6420 for help or to direct someone in need of assistance.

Anyone in need of overnight shelter should call (408) 539-2105 or email outreach@homefirstscc.org.

For more information or a referral, call (408) 539-2105 or email owlreferrals@homefirstscc.org. Individuals who do not have referrals may also call the county's shelter hotline at (408) 385-2400 for assistance finding shelters.

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**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. For more information about the Santa Clara County Office of Education, please visit [www.sccoe.org](http://www.sccoe.org).
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January 2023 Events Calendar

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