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SANTA CLARA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

## IMPACT Weekly

December 8, 2021

EQUITY | DIVERSITY | INCLUSION | PARTNERSHIP

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

Hello everyone,

Each of us have a crucial role in our community's overall health and safety. Public health officials are learning more about the new COVID-19 variant "[omicron](#)" and how it spreads and infects individuals. Our existing health and safety protocols are our best tools to prevent illness. Universal masking and vaccines are the two most effective public health strategies in reducing the spread of COVID-19 in our schools and communities. [Current mitigation approaches remain in place in K-12 schools](#). The California Department of Public Health has provided a comprehensive [fact sheet about the Omicron Variant](#).

COVID-19 vaccines are available throughout Santa Clara County for persons aged 5 and older. Visit [www.sccfreevax.org](http://www.sccfreevax.org) to sign up for an appointment or to find a convenient walk-in location.

Flu season is also upon us. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recognizes [National Influenza Vaccination Week](#) from December 5 to 11 to highlight the importance of flu vaccination.

We are #StrongerTogether.

Be well,

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



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

## Community News and Resources



VTA Activity

Coming Spring 2022: [Adult Bicycle Education Classes](#)

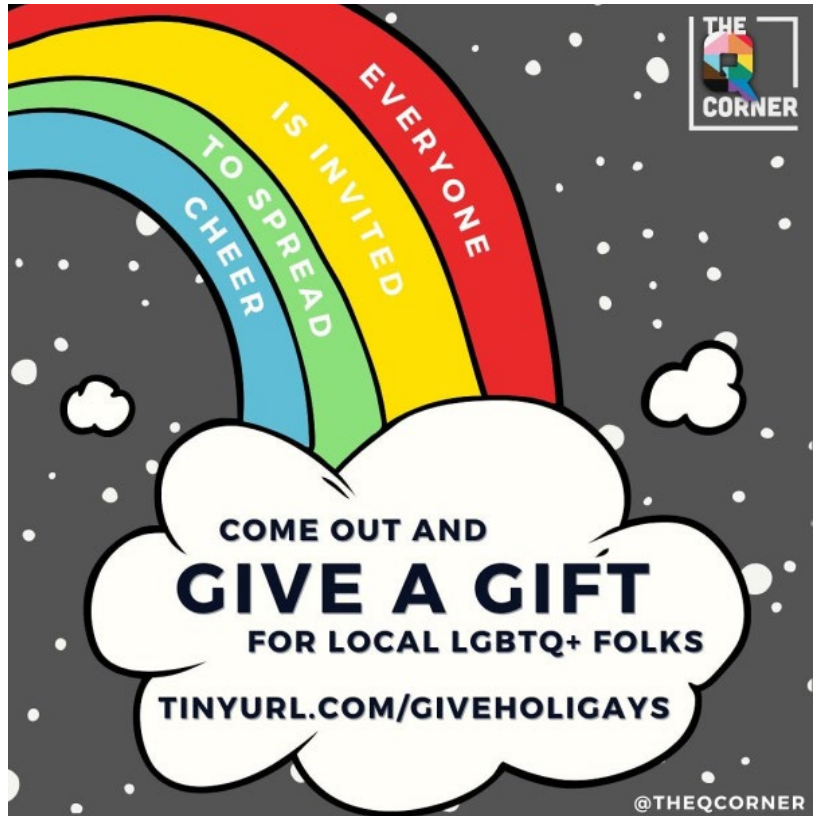
VTA is partnering with the [Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition](#) to offer four types of courses for at least the next two years, with help from 2016 Measure Bicycle and Pedestrian Program funds. [Never too late to learn something new!](#)

## Blanket and Winter Clothing Drive Now - December 17



Learn More: <https://scoe.to/7h4>

Blanket and Winter Clothing Drive



The Q Corner Happy Holigays

Everyone is invited to spread cheer through donating gifts! Come out and give a gift for folks in our local LGBTQ+ community. All donations to Happy Holigays go through the VMC Foundation and are tax deductible. Supporters can donate to VMC Foundation directly [through a fundraiser link](#) and note the donation is for *The Q Corner Happy Holigays*. Or the [QCorner's wishlist](#), with options to support local stores, is available.



Give a Gift Info

Additional Details

A festive green poster with a Santa Claus illustration at the top. The text reads: "Santa Claus IS COMING TO TOWN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH FROM 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM". Below this, it says "Old Saint Nick will be cruising through Campbell neighborhoods spreading holiday joy and collecting toys." At the bottom, it states "MAPS OF SANTA'S ROUTE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT CAMPBELLTOYPROGRAM.COM". There is a QR code on the left and a logo for the Campbell Community Toy Program on the right.

**Santa Claus**  
**IS COMING TO**  
**TOWN**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH**  
**&**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH**  
**FROM 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM**

Old Saint Nick will be cruising through Campbell neighborhoods spreading holiday joy and collecting toys.

MAPS OF SANTA'S ROUTE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT  
**CAMPBELLTOYPROGRAM.COM**

*Santa Claus is Coming to Campbell Neighborhoods*



*Traffic Safety*

Traffic safety is especially crucial as the days grow shorter and more people are traveling for the holidays. To help us make San José streets safer, join us for the quarterly Vision Zero Task Force meeting on Friday, December 10 at 9:00 a.m. Register at [bit.ly/vztf-december-meeting](https://bit.ly/vztf-december-meeting).

**BE SAFE!**



**Ride-Along with SCCFD**

**Let's Learn Important Life & Fire Safety Skills**

YOUTUBE.COM

**Be Safe! Life & Fire Safety Educational Video**

Presented By: The Santa Clara County Fire Department/Join the Santa Clara County Fire Depart...

*Learn Important Life & Fire Safety Skills with SCCFD*

Santa Clara County Fire is proud to share our "Be Safe! Life and Fire Safety Video" with the community. They firmly believe that the best way to approach the next emergency is by preventing it from happening in the first place. Check out their newest video over at <https://youtu.be/L7s8Z5udPkE> to learn more.

**Live Your Passion**

Enrolling Now for Spring & Summer Semester

Earn a Special Education Teaching Credential in our Online Program!



Apply today: [EPPSCHOLAR.SCCOE.ORG](https://EPPSCHOLAR.SCCOE.ORG)

*Enrolling Now for Spring & Summer Semester*

# Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program

## Listening Sessions

The **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)** is a new initiative designed to prevent and end youth homelessness through a coordinated community approach centered in equity and youth voices, led by the Youth Action Board (YAB).

These listening sessions are an opportunity for youth or young adults (unaccompanied minors and young adults 18-24), with lived experiences of homelessness, to talk about what they know and think from their own lived experience, to inform solutions.

### In Person & Online Sessions

Thursday  
**12/9**  
1pm

Bill Wilson Center  
693 S. Second St. San Jose

Thursday  
**12/9**  
3pm

DFCS South County  
7933 Wren Ave. Gilroy

Thursday  
**12/9**  
6pm

Reentry Resource Center  
151 W. Mission St. San Jose

Friday  
**12/10**  
5:30pm

Sunnyvale Community Services  
1160 Kern Ave. Sunnyvale

Saturday  
**12/11**  
1pm

Blanca Alvarado CRC  
408 N. Capitol Ave., East San Jose

Monday  
**12/13**  
1pm

HomeFirst BRC  
2011 Little Orchard, San Jose

Tuesday  
**12/14**  
1pm

ONLINE  
Through ZOOM

Tuesday  
**12/14**  
6pm

Covenant House, Santa Clara  
2250 El Camino Real

Thursday  
**12/16**  
6pm

ONLINE  
Through ZOOM

Sessions are expected to last 90 minutes.

**\$30**

All youth/young adult participants will receive a \$30 gift card as compensation for their time and expertise.



RSVP HERE:

[tinyurl.com/yhdpls](https://tinyurl.com/yhdpls)

For more information contact:

[YHDP@hhs.sccgov.org](mailto:YHDP@hhs.sccgov.org)



Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program

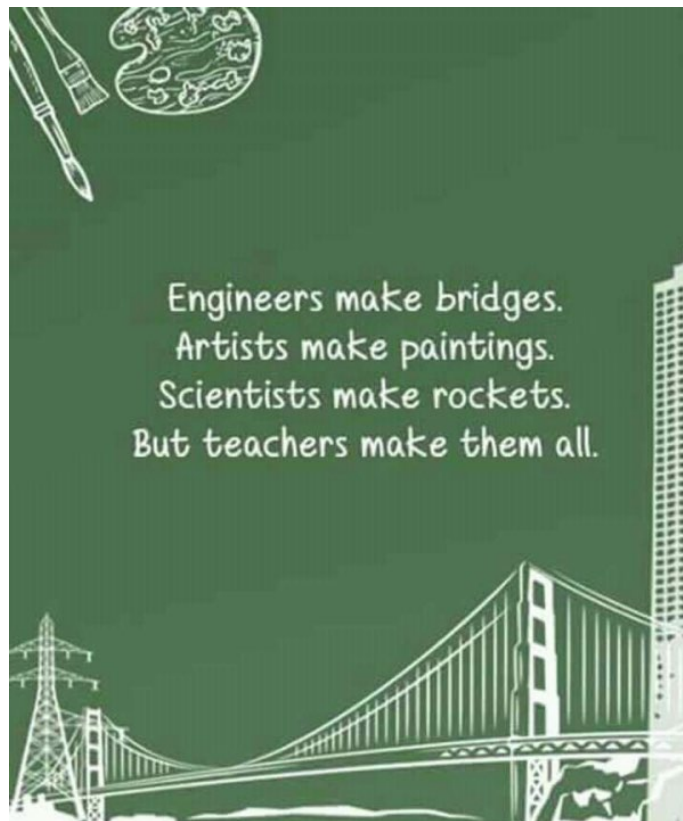
## Step Out of the Classroom and into School Administration



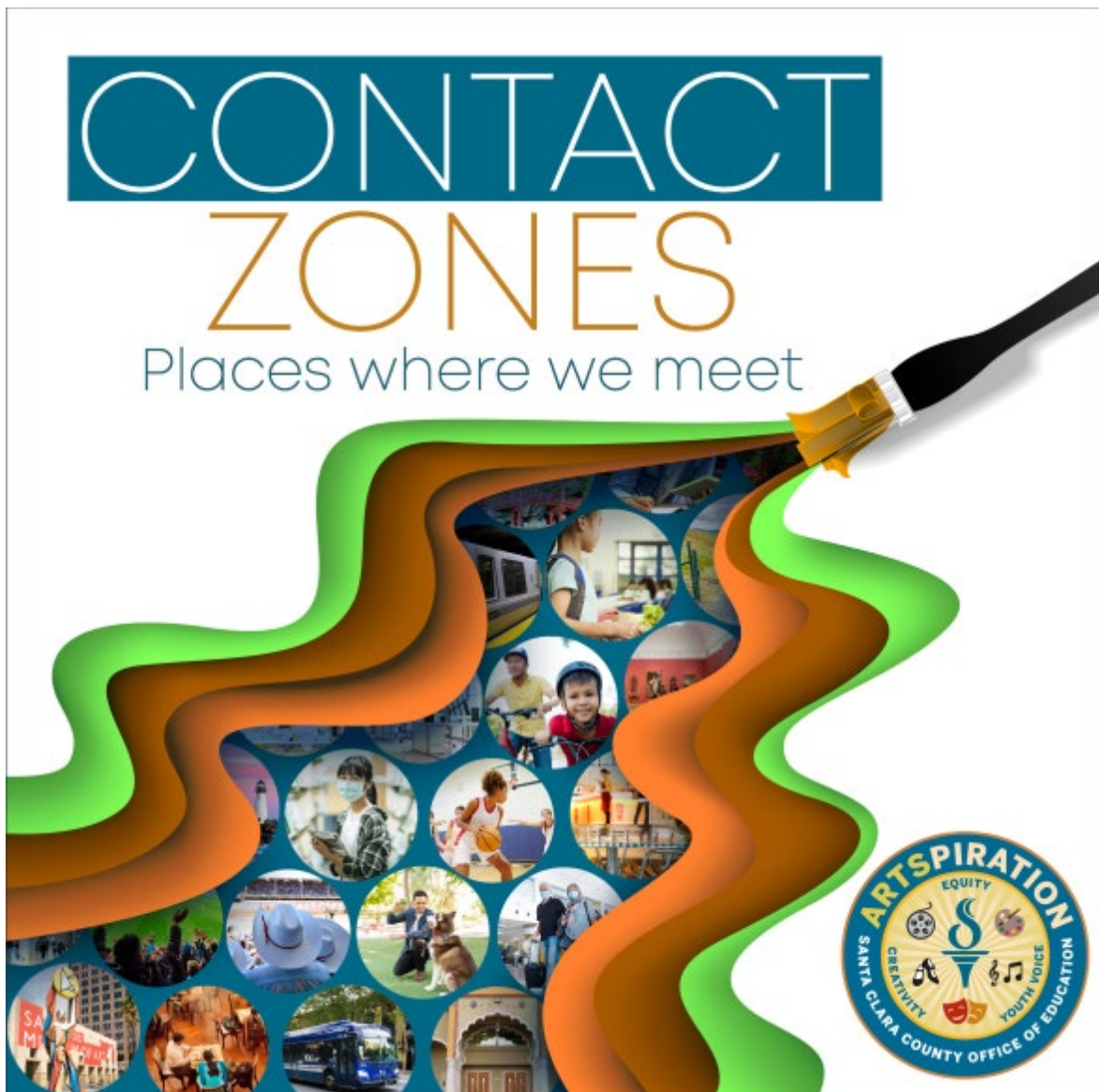
**Join Our Spring Cohort!  
Apply Today  
EPPSCHOLAR.SCCOE.ORG**

Join our Spring Cohort! [EPPScholar.sccoe.org](https://EPPScholar.sccoe.org)

## District News and Resources



*Teachers Inspiration*



*2022 Young Artist Showcase Competition*

The Santa Clara County Office of Education announces the 2022 Young Artist Showcase Competition. This competition is open to public school students, grades Pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, in Santa Clara County. Student winners will have their artwork accepted into the permanent exhibit of student artwork located within the SCCOE office as well as showcased at the San Jose, in-person Arts at the Emancipatory Education Conference on March 13, 2022, celebrating Arts Education Month in California and on May 19, 2022, in a virtual celebration of youth expression at the Santa Clara County Office of Education on Zoom.

This year's artwork theme of "Contact Zones: Places Where We Meet" encourages students to show experiences of places and/or events in which differences meet and interact. Contact zones can be any place where humans are! They include places such as schools or neighborhoods.

The submission deadline is February 25, 2022. Eligibility, Key Dates, and Submission requirements can be found on the Artspiration website at: <https://www.sccoe.org/arts/yas>





*New Online Resource for Kids - Weston Woods Plus*

The Santa Clara County Library District (SCCLD) is excited to introduce a brand new online resource for kids – Weston Woods Plus.

This vast database of children’s literature classics and modern favorites bring stories to life with interactive videos and resources. Patrons can read a variety of materials for toddlers and school age children including classics and modern favorites. You can easily find your next great read with filters like grade, age, theme, and Lexile level.

Many of these resources have study guides that can help educators create lesson plans and curriculum around these books. New readers will be able to utilize the read along feature that highlights the words being spoken in the video. Closed captions are also available to help assist in learning and to develop language recognition. Finally, translations are available on some materials in both Spanish and Mandarin.

Try it out: <https://scclld.org/kids-online-library/>

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SCCLD TEEN SERVICES PRESENTS

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# SEASONAL WINTER TRADITIONS DRAWING ❄️

SUBMIT A PHOTO OF  
YOUR FAVORITE ❄️  
WINTER TRADITION  
AND ENTER TO WIN A ❄️  
PRIZE! AGES 12-18 ONLY.

NOV 1ST - DEC 31ST

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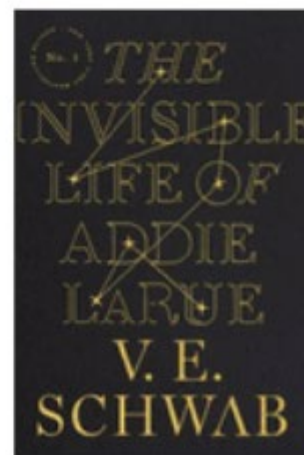
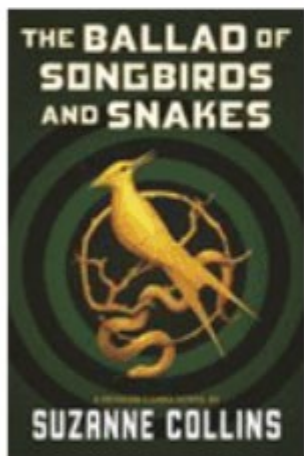
*SCCLD - Seasonal Winter Traditions Drawing*

The SCCLD invites patrons aged 12-18 to participate in our Winter Traditions Photo Contest and Gallery.

Share photographs of what winter traditions look like to you for a chance to win a prize. Perhaps it is an end of year celebration, taking a trip, making a cup of tea – let us know! We request the photo NOT include people's faces.

The deadline is Friday, December 31, 2021. Enter your submission here: <https://scclld.org/teen-winter-traditions-contest/>

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*Top Ten Teen Books of 2021*

Earlier this year, we asked teens to vote on the Top Ten Teen Books of 2021. Thank you to everyone who voted.

The results are in!

Check out the top titles here: <https://bit.ly/3oRFZNq>

Click here to see previous Top Ten Reads: <https://bit.ly/3l7Nv5N>

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# Online Bookshare

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*SCCLD Online Bookshare*

The SCCLD monthly Online Bookshare is on Tuesday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. Let us know what you are reading and get recommendations from others. We aren't limited it to one genre, so anything goes! Register here: <https://bit.ly/3xmQgW4>

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**myON<sup>®</sup>**  
by Renaissance<sup>®</sup>

**Over 6,000  
free ebooks  
for kids!**

*Over 6,000 free ebooks for kids!*



*My Name, My Identity Student Design Challenge*

**\*Attention Students\***

The Santa Clara County Office of Education invites students to work in teams to complete a Student Design Challenge for creating a welcoming and safe classroom or community.

For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/studentDchallenge>.

Submissions due December 10, 2021.

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# We have even more Binders!

The Q Corner is able to provide new and lightly used gc2b binders to folks in Santa Clara County at no cost!



REQUEST A BINDER AT:

[tinyurl.com/qcbinders](https://tinyurl.com/qcbinders)



@theqcorner

*Q Corner Binder Distribution*

The Q Corner has received more new and gently used gc2b binders right in time for the holidays. These chest compression garments are available in half and full length, sizes XS thru 5X. The Team is thrilled to be able to get the binders out to folks in Santa Clara County who otherwise don't have access to one. If you are in our local area and are in need of a binder, click the link to request one: [tinyurl.com/qcbinders](https://tinyurl.com/qcbinders)

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*Click the Picture for Available Grants*



*Arts Grants for Santa Clara County Teachers*

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) Artspiration department is now accepting grant applications! The SCCOE in partnership with SVCcreates is pleased to announce arts education grants through the generosity of the County of Santa Clara and the Warmenhoven Family Foundation. The ArtsEdConnect program awards grants to classrooms in Santa Clara County to support and encourage arts education in schools.

Apply now through December 17: <https://www.artsedconnect.org/educator-grants/>

You can't pour  
from an empty cup.



Take care of yourself first.

*Take care of yourself first.*

**COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs  
for**

**Parents and  
guardians**



[sccFreeVax.org](https://www.sccFreeVax.org)

*COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs for Parents and Guardians*



## Does the vaccine have any side effects?

### Some people feel mild side effects after vaccination.

Common side effects are redness where the shot was given, muscle aches, and fever, and usually gone in a day or two.



[sccFreeVax.org](http://sccFreeVax.org)

*Vaccine Side Effects?*

## Are COVID-19 vaccines linked to heart health problems?

### Heart health problems are very rare.

COVID-19 disease causes more serious health problems than the vaccine. The vaccine is the best protection against COVID-19 heart health problems.



[sccFreeVax.org](http://sccFreeVax.org)

*Vaccines Linked to Health Problems?*

# FREE Tdap Shots for 6th - 12th Graders

Through December 30, 2021

Monday-Friday

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1:30-5 p.m.

## Public Health Travel and Immunization Clinic

976 Lenzen Avenue, San José, CA 95126

Call 408-792-5200 to schedule an appointment today. Walk-ins are welcome if space is available.



*Free Tdap Shots for 6th-12 Graders*

# Spread Joy, Not COVID

Tips for Protecting Yourself and Others This Holiday Season

## Get Vaccinated, Including a Booster Shot if You're Eligible

Vaccines are the best way to end the pandemic and they prevent COVID-19 illness, hospitalization and death. They're safe, effective and free. [Learn more about COVID-19 vaccines](#) and visit [sccFreeVax.org](http://sccFreeVax.org) or [MyTurn.ca.gov](http://MyTurn.ca.gov) to get vaccinated.



## Stay Home if You're Sick

Anyone feeling sick, even with mild [symptoms](#) (sore throat, cough, sniffles), should stay home, isolate from others, and get tested. Download our [testing fact sheet](#) and read our [testing guidance](#).

## Get Tested Before and After Traveling or Gathering for the Holidays

**Know Before You Go.** Get tested 1-3 days before a family gathering, or prior to any travel, even if you have no symptoms. Antigen testing should be done 24 hours prior to a gathering or travel. PCR testing should be done within 72 hours – with results available prior to a gathering or travel. There are no out-of-pocket costs to get tested. Visit [sccFreeTest.org](http://sccFreeTest.org) or call (408) 970-2000. Learn more about [types of COVID tests](#).

**Know When You Return.** Test upon returning from the holidays. Test again 3-5 days later.

## Also Consider the Following:

- Take precautions if some in your group are unvaccinated (e.g., wear masks, socialize outdoors, keep gatherings short).
- Be sure to wear a good mask, that fits well. N95 and KN95 or surgical masks do the best job filtering out viruses and particles.
- Gather outside or increase airflow in indoor spaces. [Read our ventilation fact sheet](#).
- [Activate CA Notify](#) (California's COVID-19 exposure notification system) on your smartphone. Ask your guests to do the same.

Read more from the California Department of Public Health



Help prevent the spread of COVID-19 by following current CDC travel guidelines



*Prepping for a safe holiday*

A poster with a yellow top half and a dark blue bottom half. The text "FREE DROP-IN COVID-19 TESTING WEEKLY" is in bold black letters on the yellow background. Below the text is an illustration of a test tube and a magnifying glass over a gear. The text "No Appointment Needed" is in large white letters on the dark blue background.

**FREE DROP-IN  
COVID-19  
TESTING WEEKLY**

**No Appointment  
Needed**

*COVID-19 Testing at Ridder Park*

COVID-19 testing for education sector employees and their family members.

**Tuesdays and Fridays at Ridder Park  
7:00 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.  
or  
12:00 p.m. – 2:55 p.m**

Education sector employees can drop in, with your patient ID, for an observed self-administered nasal swab LHI/ OptumServe test at Ridder Park.

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

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## Announcements

### News Release:

- [The Santa Clara County Office of Education Wins Distinguished Golden Bell Award](#)

### **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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### [December 2021 Events Calendar](#)

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