

# district UPDATE

February 2010

Santa Clara Unified School District

Vol. 18, No. 5

## Board Takes Decisive Action to Pursue Needed School Funding

### Santa Clara Unified School District Board of Education Unanimously Approves a Resolution in Support of the Proposed 49ers Stadium.

The Santa Clara Unified School District School Board of Education members recently voted to endorse the 49er Stadium project which will be put before Santa Clara voters in June, 2010. The School Board felt it their fiduciary responsibility to take a position on this issue, as there will be a financial impact for the school district with the building of a stadium in Santa Clara, and the school district is facing millions of dollars in cuts over the next few years.

The proposed 49ers Stadium initiative, if passed by voters, would result in an additional \$26 million to the existing Redevelopment Agency Funds of \$107 million in funds and release these funds five years earlier than currently scheduled. The timing of these funds couldn't be more important, as the district is currently expanding class sizes and laying off multiple teachers to stay fiscally solvent. It is anticipated that the construction of a stadium within the Bayshore North Project, a Redevelopment Agency project of the City of Santa Clara, will yield approximately \$26 million in additional revenue for the Santa Clara Unified School District between the start of construction and the year 2026. Without the stadium, the revenue stream, minus the \$26

million, is anticipated to begin to flow in 2019.

Superintendent, Steve Stavis stated, "Not only are the 49ers great community sponsors inspiring our kids through art projects, physical fitness facilities such as the Fitness Zone at Townsend Field, and many other activities, but building the stadium will help us with needed funds sooner rather than waiting till 2019 for the RDA to release the taxes back into our coffers."

When asked about whether it was appropriate for the school board to vote on such a measure, multiple board members responded that considering all options and pursuing revenue streams that benefit the district and serve the interests of the staff and the students is a priority especially for the next few years.

Based on the expert fiscal evidence provided by a leading State economist on how the stadium project would benefit SCUSD, the Santa Clara Unified School District School Board unanimously approved the Project. For more information on this action, please contact Tabitha Kappeler-Hurley at 423-2109.

## Pennies for Peace at Pomeroy Elementary School



The students at Pomeroy Elementary School have joined hands with tens of thousands of other school children around the world who share the vision and dedication to empower communities through education in remote areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Pomeroy students are embarking

on a Pennies for Peace campaign to broaden their cultural horizons and become members of a global family dedicated to peace.

How can a penny bring peace? It doesn't buy much in Santa Clara. But in the villages of Pakistan and Afghanistan, it can buy a pencil, start an education, and transform a life. In a region where terrorist organizations recruit uneducated, illiterate children, that pencil can empower a child to read, write, and learn. The Pennies for Peace program goal is to encourage children, who are ultimately our future leaders, to learn the

value of philanthropy by collecting pennies for global peace.

Pomeroy students will have an opportunity to study the cultures of Afghanistan and Pakistan, learn to work and share together in their Pennies for Peace campaign, and come to understand their own capacity as philanthropists – one penny at a time.

### The pennies that Pomeroy students collect can add up to make a real difference

- 1 penny = a pencil
- 2-3 pennies = an eraser
- 15 pennies = one notebook
- \$20 = one child's school supplies for one year
- \$50 = one treadle sewing machine and supplies
- \$100 = maternal healthcare supplies for one year
- \$300 = one advanced student's annual scholarship
- \$600 = one teacher's annual salary
- \$5,000 = support for existing school for one year
- \$50,000 = one school building and support for up to five years

*(Continued on next page)*

### DATES TO REMEMBER



- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| <b>Mar 11</b> | Board Meeting     |
| <b>Mar 12</b> | Trimester         |
| <b>Mar 15</b> | Payroll Due       |
| <b>Mar 25</b> | Board Meeting     |
| <b>Mar 26</b> | Quarter           |
| <b>Mar 30</b> | <b>Pay Day!!!</b> |

# district UPDATE

## IN OUR SCHOOLS

### SCHS 11th Annual Crab Feed

SCHS hosted almost 400 people at its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Crab Feed on Saturday, January 30. The Crab Feed is the school's biggest fundraiser of the year, with all proceeds going directly to student body activities. The event is organized by SCHS employees Sharon



Vignato and Patrice Anderson, and would not be possible without the generous donations of time, money and goods from many employees, alumni, community members, and local business owners.

### SCUSD Relay for Life Team Forming – Come be a Part of It!



This May 15th and 16th<sup>th</sup> will find 40+ Santa Clara Unified employees and friends out on Townsend Field walking through the night to raise money and awareness for the American Cancer Society. This is a great family –focused event and all money raised will go to

help forward cancer research and support for victims and survivors of cancer. The teams are open to anyone who would like to walk at least an hour in the Relay and who can raise at least \$100.00. There is a team forming at Peterson Middle School as well as a district-wide team. Call Tabitha Kappeler-Hurley at 423-2109 for more information or if your school is interested in creating their own team.



Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

Show 7:00pm

Tickets  
\$10 at the door

For more information:  
[noelani@sallings.org](mailto:noelani@sallings.org)

**Wilcox Performing Arts Center**  
**3250 Monroe Street**  
**Santa Clara, CA 95051**

### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Success Camp: A Great Time For All

February 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> brought together over 60 middle and high school girls for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Success Camp. The GAINS Advisor Team did a phenomenal job of pulling together a variety of speakers, workshops, hands on activities, and field trips that opened the attendee's eyes to new careers and areas to study while in school.



Yoga, belly dancing, underwater robotics, financial literacy, strawberry DNA experiments, engineering Olympics, and lunch with a variety of

women in the environmental field are just a sampling of the activities attendees experienced. Success Camp would not be possible without the work of the advisor team, community volunteers, and our corporate partners Gilead, City of Santa Clara, Santa Clara University, Micelli Financial Partners, and Society of Women Engineers. Success Camp participants also had the chance to create items for the Support Network as their community service. Many thanks to our partners, sponsors, advisor team, volunteers and the students who participated in Success Camp for a great two days of learning, friendship and fun!

### Pennies for Peace (Continued from first page)

Children in over 400 mountain villages in remote northern Pakistan and Afghanistan are on the waiting list, hoping to learn in a new school. Pomeroy students hope to help build a bridge of peace, one penny at a time, offering alternatives to the cycle of terrorism and war.

About Pennies for Peace: The Pennies for Peace campaign is a program of Central Asia Institute (CAI), founded by Greg Mortenson, author of the #1 New York Times best seller, *Three Cups of Tea*. CAI is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that promotes and provides community-based education and literacy programs, especially for girls, in remote mountain regions of Central Asia. Founded in 1996, CAI has built, to date, nearly 100 schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan, which serve more than 28,000 students, 14,000 of whom are girls. Greg's story and more information about CAI can be found on the web at [www.ikat.org](http://www.ikat.org).

To find out more about Pomeroy's Pennies for Peace campaign, please contact Sarah Guilfooy at (408) 423-3869 or [sguilfooy@scusd.net](mailto:sguilfooy@scusd.net).



## OTHER NEWS

If you are unable to obtain the  
**H1N1 Flu Vaccine**  
from your Medical Provider

Please Call The  
Public Health  
Information Line At:  
**(408) 885-3980**



to schedule an appointment to  
receive your H1N1 influenza vaccine

Dedicated to the Health  
of the Whole Community



### News from Full Circle Farm

Please save the Date: April 18, 2010

We are just a little over a month away from our biggest event of the year! Our third annual Earth Day Fest will be taking place on April 18<sup>th</sup> from 10a.m – 2p.m. This year's theme "We Got It Growin' On" will be a day to celebrate the incredible growth of not only our Farm and Gardens but more importantly the growing community spirit and interest in growing sustainable food and adopting responsible practices.



The day will be jam-packed with kids activities, entertainment, presentations and demonstrations of eco-friendly products and programs. We will have tours of the Farm, a petting zoo, guest speakers; and will be showing off the over 100 new fruit trees added to our history orchard.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with planning the event as well as staffing the various venues during our celebration.

If you would like to help us with:

- Volunteer recruiting and coordination
- Marketing and advertising
- Fundraising
- Traffic control
- Or any other aspect you are passionate about...

Please email us at [events@fullcirclesunnyvale.org](mailto:events@fullcirclesunnyvale.org)

Regards,

p.s. Don't forget you get **10%** off at the farmstand just for mentioning you work for SCUSD!!!

### News from Curriculum & Instruction

**English Language Arts Adoption**—K-12 Teachers met in January to evaluate English Language Arts curriculum and decide which materials to present to the Board of Education for approval in March. Teachers involved in the pilot were able to give detailed feedback on-line using Survey Monkey. The use of technology provided richer and more detailed feedback and simplified the decision-making process.

**Wilcox Foreign Languages**—Chef Daniel and the Culinary Arts, Hospitality, and Management Preparation (CHAMPS) class prepared a "French meal" for French AP students in the cafe at school. The CHAMPS class planned the menu (green salad, French onion soup, three different types of quiche (with handmade crusts), and a lemon mousse for dessert). The event was so successful that an encore is planned for May with new cuisine. Bon Appetite!

### Wilson High Receives Grant

Wilson High School is pleased to announce that they are the recipient of a \$12,300.00 grant from the Legacy San Jose Alviso Foundation. Because Wilson is not provided with district bussing our students must rely on their own transportation to and from school. Wilson will use this money to award our Alviso students monthly bus passes to help them with transportation to and from school. Thank you to Tim Pacheco and Christine Elgin for writing this successful grant for our students.

### Cabrillo Runs SF Half-Marathon!



Above are 19 of the 24 runners from Cabrillo and family who ran in the San Francisco Half-Marathon & 5k on February 7<sup>th</sup>. We ran for all the people dear to us who have had cancer, Leukemia, or Lymphoma. We specifically ran in honor of our five friends and co-workers at Cabrillo (Judy Blake, Jack Riviere, Ha Nguyen, Joyce Brand, and Tracy Pope) who are survivors of these life threatening diseases.

.....  
• "I ran to honor my mom and everyone else who is fighting or  
• has fought cancer. I stomped it out with every step of my 13.1  
• mile run!!!"  
.....  
-Harjinder Basi

# district UPDATE

APTSA sponsored

Santa Clara and Wilcox High Schools Parent Education Night

**PTSA**  
everychild.onevoice.

This event is  
**FREE** and everyone  
is invited!

**Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Kids Need 21<sup>st</sup> Century Parenting**  
**7:00 p.m. On Wednesday, March 24, 2010**  
**Santa Clara High School Science Lecture Hall**

- Tune in to your child's need
- Explore the roles that stress plays in your child's life
- Learn to parent more calmly and effectively

- Help tweens/teens in ways that best support age-appropriate independence

Presented by Annie Fox, M.Ed., an award-winning author and educator with 30+ years experience. Her books include the *Middle School Confidential* series, *Too Stressed to Think?* and *The Teen Survival Guide to Dating and Relating*. Go to [anniefox.com](http://anniefox.com) to learn more.

## FREE SALE

**March 24, 2009 3:30-5:00pm**  
**Behind the District Resource Center (DRC)**

Office Supplies (Paper, Pens, Binders, etc)  
Arts and Crafts Supplies  
Classroom/Office Furniture

**Reminder:** Donations are given to the school district for classroom and school/district office purposes only (*not for personal use*).

**For more information call x2131**

## Calling All Artists!



The district office walls are just **begging** for some wonderful student artwork to liven them up. Art of all levels is welcome. Artwork usually stays up for one month and is put up and taken down by the sponsoring school and/or teacher. Please include school, teacher, grade level, and student first names only on each piece. Please call (408) 423-2131 or email Jenn Alcazar at [jalcazar@scusd.net](mailto:jalcazar@scusd.net) for more information and to sign up.

*Have an article for the District Update? Please email the article and a photo or two to Jenn Alcazar at [jalcazar@scusd.net](mailto:jalcazar@scusd.net). We will include the article as space permits.*

## BOARD BRIEFS

February 11, 2010

### REPORTS

- From Closed Session. (Gov't Code Section 54957.1)
- From Student Reps (Lana Le from Wilcox High School, Andre Duarte from Santa Clara High School, Edna Pacheco from New Valley High School and Laura Whittaker from Middle College).

### CONSENT ITEMS

Consideration and approval of:

- Routine Personnel Items.
- A field trip for the New Valley Essay Contest Winners to travel to the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles and Disneyland in Anaheim, CA, March 19-21, 2010.
- A field trip for the Santa Clara High School Spirit Squad to participate in the USA Spirit Competition in Anaheim, CA, March 26-28, 2010.
- A field trip for the 5th Graders at Haman Elementary School to participate in the Walden West Science Camp, May 4-7, 2010.
- A donation of \$10,000 to Wilcox High School from the estate of Rosalie F. Nunes to be used for the Nadine Nunes Memorial Scholarship Fund.

### ACTION ITEMS

Consideration and approval of:

- Two new high school courses, Exploring Computer Science and Advanced Science Investigations, for the 2010-2011 school year.
- The Administrative Appointments for Summer School 2010.
- The 2010-2011 SCUSD School Calendar.
- The Project to Modernize the Industrial Arts buildings at Wilcox High School.
- Resolution #10-04, CIMS-9660, Instructional Materials Contract.
- A Provisional Internship Permit Request for a certificated employee.
- Resolution #10-08, SCUSD's Support of the San Francisco 49er Stadium.

### PLANNING ITEMS

Discussion regarding:

- The proposal by the Santa Clara Valley Water District to use Braly field as a flood detention area.
- Plans to construct a new multi-story classroom building at Wilcox High School.
- Revisions to Board Policy 3515.2, Disruptions.

# Wellness Page

*It is the mission of the Wellness Committee to review, recommend and promote standards, policies, and practices which seek to enhance the physical and emotional well being and value of all employees in the Santa Clara Unified School District.*

**March is National Nutrition Month. Healthy lifestyle changes such as a healthy diet, quitting smoking, getting enough sleep, fitting in exercise most days, and stress management are critical steps in preventing heart disease and other chronic conditions.**

## Walking — Getting the Respect it Deserves

The 2-footed upright gait is one of the things that separate us from all other animals. Strange as it seems, though, modern man seems determined to walk as little as possible.

It's understandable that few of us would walk 5 miles to work. But remarkably, few choose to walk to a friend's house or neighborhood store. Moving walkways whisk us through airports; elevators and escalators lure us away from stairways; and carts haul us around the links. Walking doesn't get the respect it deserves.



Perhaps because we've seen so many hard-breathing, sweat-drenched runners counting their pulse rates, ordinary folks assume that less intense exercise is a waste of time.

Since the 1970s, the aerobic doctrine dominated exercise and health; 'exercise' required working hard enough to boost your heart rate to 70 - 85% of its maximum, keeping it there for 20 - 60 minutes, and repeating at least 3 times a week. But intense workouts carry a risk for injury and are hard work. Although the aerobic doctrine inspired the few, it discouraged the many.

In fact, moderate exercise is excellent for health — and walking is the poster-child for moderate exercise. More than 2,400 years ago, Hippocrates said, "Walking is a man's best medicine." To find out if he was right, scientists from University College London analyzed research published between 1970 and 2007. In all, walking reduced the risk of cardiovascular events by 31% and it cut the risk of dying during the study by 32% in men and women. Protection was evident even at low distances and at a casual pace. The people who walked longer distances and/or at a faster pace enjoyed the greatest protection.

If cardiac protection and a lower death rate are not enough to get you moving, consider that walking and other moderate exercise programs also help protect against other challenges such as dementia, obesity, diabetes, and depression. Whether you walk in a business suit or a sweat suit, on city streets or country roads, every walk you take is a step toward good health.

One of the nice things about walking is that you don't need special skill, much less lessons. It will get you away from the demanding routines of daily life, which is a nice plus for mental health. Supportive street shoes are adequate. And because you don't need to push yourself enough to sweat, you don't need special clothing. Just stay warm in the winter, cool in the summer, and dry in the rain. Here are a few tips to get you started and give walking the priority it deserves.

**Safety:** Walk facing cars if you don't have a sidewalk, and avoid high-speed or congested traffic. Beware of dogs, choose safe

locations, and try to walk with a friend.

**Warm-up/cool down:** Start out at a slow pace, and slow down toward the end.

**Form:** Keep your posture erect with your chin up, your eyes forward, and your shoulders square. Keep your arms close to your torso, swing your arms with each stride, and keep up a steady rhythmic cadence.

Always listen to your body. If you are ill or injured, back off. Stay well-hydrated, and avoid hazardous conditions. To stay motivated, walk with a friend or listen to a radio or MP3 player. And for some, the best motivation is a dog. One way or another, walk.

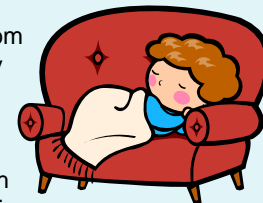
([www.intelihealth.com](http://www.intelihealth.com) Harvey B. Simon, M.D., Harvard Medical School)

## Don't Bank on the Weekend To Make Up for Sleep Loss

Sleeping in on Saturday after days of too little shut-eye may feel refreshing, but it can give a false sense of security. New research shows chronic sleep loss cannot be cured that easily. Scientists teased apart the effects of sleep loss and found that the chronically sleep-deprived may function normally soon after waking up, but experience steadily slower reaction times as the day wears on, even if they had tried to catch up the previous night. "We know that staying awake 24 hours in a row impairs performance to a level comparable to a blood-alcohol content beyond the legal limit to drive," said lead researcher Dr. Daniel Cohen of Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital.

The National Institutes of Health says adults need 7 - 9 hours of sleep for good health. Regularly getting too little increases the risk of health problems, including memory impairment and a weakened immune system. More immediately, too little sleep affects reaction times; sleepiness is to blame for car crashes and other accidents.

The well-rested can catch up from the occasional all-nighter fairly easily. But as the study wore on and the volunteers became more sleep-deprived, their reaction times steadily worsened with each hour they stayed awake. Daytime decline was subtle, and the people's circadian rhythms provided a bit of rescue. But when they stayed up past bedtime yet again, the drop was so sharp that Cohen concluded these people were increasingly vulnerable to accidents and errors. Although measured in milliseconds, the change was enough to mean a difference between, say, hitting the brakes in time or not.



([www.intelihealth.com](http://www.intelihealth.com), 2010 The Associated Press)

## OTHER NEWS

## SVEF and Target Give Grants For School Field Trips

As an official partner district with Silicon Valley Education Foundation, SCUSD has received \$1500.00 to fund three field trips at the following destinations:

- Children's Discovery Museum
- TECH Museum of Innovation
- Marine Science Institute

We will choose three (3) classes across the District to participate in this opportunity. The lucky classes will be chosen through the following application process.

The price of admission for each of these destinations through this special opportunity is \$400.00. Transportation will not be included so that we can fund three classes.



## Application Process

1. Submit either by email ([jtopliff@scusd.net](mailto:jtopliff@scusd.net)) or hardcopy to Julianne Toppliff, Education Partnerships, District Office
2. Include: Teacher Name, Grade Level, School Site
3. Write a justification for why your class should be chosen for this opportunity. Specify your destination.
4. Transportation costs will need to be covered by the school site. Please include in your justification a plan for covering the cost of transportation.

## Selection Process

The applications will be read by the Ed Services Team and you and your administrator will be notified if your class is chosen.

*Please submit the applications no later than Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.*

## Teacher Innovation Grants

SVEF established its Teacher Innovation Grants to empower teachers to create new and exciting approaches to learning in the classroom.

**Who:** Teachers of all grade levels (Pre-K - 12) in Santa Clara County public schools may apply.

**What:**

- Grants of up to \$500 (up to \$1000 for a Collaborative Grant) are available.
- Grants may be used to:
  - Fund professional development
  - Purchase technology and equipment
  - Fund field trips
  - Support other innovative idea to be implemented in the classroom
- There are two types of Teacher Innovation Grants. Each type of grant may be done collaboratively.
  - Classroom
  - Field Trip

**How:** Apply online at [www.sveffoundation.org](http://www.sveffoundation.org). Look under "How We Help" and "Empowering Teachers".

**When:**

- Application deadlines for the 2009-2010 school year are:
  - Friday, March 5, 2010
  - Friday, March 30, 2010

For questions, email [TIG@sveffoundation.org](mailto:TIG@sveffoundation.org)

## Lessonopoly

SVEF developed Lessonopoly, an open source software tool, to improve teacher collaboration and facilitate effective teacher strategies.

Lessonopoly is a free, open source, and effective classroom tool designed with extensive input from teachers. Lessonopoly provides teachers with the tools necessary to plan, manage, and share everything that happens in their classrooms. With Lessonopoly, teachers can:

- Organize and store their lesson library and plan their school year curriculum.
- Create, share and search for lesson plans.
- Collaborate with other teachers.
- Communicate with other teachers and students.
- Share innovative teaching methods and resources.

By using Lessonopoly, teachers can share strategies and lessons they've found effective in the classroom. Lessonopoly puts powerful resources at the fingertips of teachers. Best of all, Lessonopoly can be used at any school and by any teacher.

The beta version of the product can be viewed at [www.lessonopoly.org](http://www.lessonopoly.org). With funding from Cisco Systems, JP Morgan Chase Foundation, and others, we estimate exceeding 10,000 lesson plans early in 2010. We anticipate moving to full production release by the end of 2010.