Santa Clara County Office of Education

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“The Santa Clara County Office of Education is committed to the arts as an expression of our core principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and partnership. Each of these are boldly expressed through our countywide Artspiration initiative. We have seen the power of the arts to engage and inspire all learners and be a powerful tool for youth to share their voices, bring awareness to their individuality, express their creativity and ignite their passions.”

– Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D., Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools

Arts Engaging with the Community
Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is proud of the growing Young Artist Showcase. The Young Artist Showcase is the largest collection of student artwork in the state. In the County Office, a new media arts wall has been installed to showcase artwork digitally. Throughout the building, you will find QR codes on the artwork that link to a video of the student artist statement.

In addition to the galleries at the County Office, the Young Artist Showcase can be found within the community. Partnerships have been a vital component of Artspiration, the arts education initiative, at SCCOE. There are Young Artist Showcase galleries displayed at the Mineta San Jose International Airport and the Santa Clara County Federal Credit Union locations.

In April 2019, Santa Clara County Office of Education hosted an Arts/STEAM Families Learning Together event at Orchard School. TK through grade 12 families were invited for a day of artmaking and design thinking.
Primary students made art in parent-led workshops and upper grade students participated in a design challenge at R.A.F.T. (Resource Area For Teaching). Families also heard from working artists on how the Arts is a viable career path and the intersections with STEAM fields.

SCCOE is also a proud partner with SV Creates. SV Creates and SCCOE have come together to assist educator grants to provide arts experiences for K-12 classrooms in the Silicon Valley. In addition, SCCOE and SV Creates work together to support arts education in our alternative education system through the Studio Arts program. The Studio Arts program teaching artists lift up our most at-risk students in a creative and nurturing way.

**Morgan Hill Unified School District Soaring With Arts Education**

Morgan Hill Unified School District adopted the Equity Arts Resolution in June 2017 and received recognition as an early adopter at the 2018 Create CA Convening. Morgan Hill then started their strategic arts plan in the fall of 2017. The arts planning was done with support from the California Alliance for Education and the Santa Clara County Office of Education. These steps created a solid foundation and a readiness for the 2018-2019 Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grant. MHUSD received $1 million through the SSAE grant to support their work on creating a more equitable approach to arts education through the lens of arts integration for all TK-8th grade students and teachers. With the grant funding, they were able to offer monthly arts integration trainings, teacher stipends for individualized arts projects that met the needs of their specific sites, arts programming with a social emotional emphasis for all students at the K-8 summer school, an intensive Arts Summer Institute for teachers, and necessary supplies for the schools to feel confident implementing arts integration as a teaching strategy.

Morgan Hill Unified School District's school board officially approved their strategic arts education plan in the Spring of 2019. In the Fall of 2019, the district brought on a full-time VAPA Teacher on Special Assignment.