



San Mateo County Youth Commission



**In light of COVID-19, this meeting will be held virtually.
Members of the public are welcome to join the Virtual Zoom Meeting:**

Join by Device: <https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/94451610751>
Join by Phone: **+1 669 900 6833**, Meeting ID: **944 5161 0751**

WORKGROUP MEETING **Agenda**

Thursday, February 10, 2022
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Community Agreements

1. Representation
2. Equality
3. Integrity
4. Unity
5. One mic, one voice
6. Respect all people
7. Engaged members
8. Leadership and empowerment
9. Flexible and open to other perspectives
10. Collaborate with other organizations
11. Understand value of diverse lived experiences
12. Include youth in conversations that impact them
13. Keep needs of youth in San Mateo County above personal interests
14. Question decisions and resist complacency
15. Commitment to policies that foster diversity, equity, and inclusion

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Public Comment

Members of the public may address the commission on youth related issues and concerns that are not currently on the agenda. The public is welcome to speak on Agenda items throughout the meeting. Please use the raise hand feature if you would like to make a public comment. If you are attending by phone, you may press *9 to raise your hand.

4. Approve Agenda (Action)

5. Approve January 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes (Action)

6. Resolution to Continue Virtual Meetings (Action)

7. Ice Breaker Activity

8. Equitable Education Declaration

9. **Sexual Assault Resolution**

Commissioners Catherine Warden, Penelope Stinson, Katelyn Chang, Nicholas Reed, Valeria Chavez-Franco

10. **Committee Budget Requests**

11. **Committee Worktime**

12. **Committee Report Outs**

13. **Announcements**

14. **Adjournment**

Next Meeting: February 24, 2022

Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for a regular or special meeting of the Youth Commission are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Commission. Those public records are available to be sent electronically by emailing edallman@smcgov.org.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: The meetings of the Youth Commission are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Contact Ellie Dallman at edallman@smcgov.org as soon as possible prior to the meeting, if (1) you need special assistance or a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in this meeting; or (2) you have a disability and wish to receive the meeting notice, agenda packet or other writings that may be distributed at the meeting in an alternative format. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable the Youth Commission to make reasonable arrangements to ensure full accessibility to this meeting and the materials related to it.



San Mateo County Youth Commission



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REGULAR MEETING

Mintues

Thursday, January 27, 2022

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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Stop The Violence Student Ambassadors

4. Approve Agenda (Action)

Motion: Warden, Second: Mateja

5. Approve Minutes (Action)

Motion: Nori, Second: Fox

6. Presentation: Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA)

Priyanka Sandhi, Youth Educator

- Works with people impacted by intimate partner abuse

- Domestic Violence Prevention Agency for SMC, 24/7 hotline available (800-300-1080)
- Children's Program (any age), Legal Services, Mental Health Services, Teen Support Group (only survivors)
- 1/3 teens will be in an abusive relationship
- Abuse is power and control
- Volunteer Opportunities: Call Hotline Number, Possible Youth Commission Collaboration

7. **Presentation: Rape Trauma Services (RTS)**

Sonia Harris, Prevention Educator and Sexual Assault Counselor

- Aims to eliminate sexual assault abuse and violence, Center for healing and prevention
- 24/7 hotline, three departments: Advocacy & Accompaniment, Therapy & Counseling, Prevention Education

8. **Breakout Groups Discussion**

- Schools not being helpful silencing students, only being talked about within the student body, unknow sexual assault policies within schools

9. **Boards and Commissions Liaison Updates**

- Behavioral Health Commission: Planning Goals Rest of The Year
- Board of Education: Closing down gateway schools
- Commission on Disabilities: N/A
- Commission on the Status of Women: Rise 2022 Leadership Conference
- Domestic Violence Council: N/A
- First 5: Home Visits Presentation
- JJDP: Adopting new policies
- LGBTQ: Possible Committee Projects
- Parks: New Chair Commission Retreat

10. **Committee Updates**

- a. Civic Engagement: Launch on Voted Ed Poster Contest, Voter Ed Mandate
- b. Education & Economic Development: Equitable Education Declaration
- c. Environmental Justice: Climate Action Template
- d. Health & Wellness: Advertising Conference, Finalizing Speakers, Breaking Down Societal Pressures (Mental Health Monday)
- e. Immigrant Youth: Scholarship and Date Planning
- f. Transformative Justice: SRO's research

11. **Announcements**

- 2021-2022 Adolescent Reports Ideas to Add
- Commission Voting on Expenses Based on YC Budgets
- YLI Journalism Opportunity: Writing Skills and Journalism

12. **Adjournment**

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RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION FINDING THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM, MEETING IN PERSON FOR MEETINGS OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION WOULD PRESENT IMMINENT RISKS TO THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF ATTENDEES

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed pursuant to his authority under the California Emergency Services Act, California Government Code section 8625, that a state of emergency exists with regard to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2021, the Governor clarified that the “reopening” of California on June 15, 2021 did not include any change to the proclaimed state of emergency or the powers exercised thereunder, and as of the date of this Resolution, neither the Governor nor the Legislature have exercised their respective powers pursuant to California Government Code section 8629 to lift the state of emergency either by proclamation or by concurrent resolution in the state Legislature; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code section 54950 et seq. (the “Brown Act”), provided certain requirements were met and followed; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 that provides that a legislative body subject to the Brown Act may continue to meet without fully complying with the teleconferencing rules in the Brown Act provided the legislative

body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and further requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every thirty (30) days; and,

WHEREAS, California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”) and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) caution that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html>); and,

WHEREAS, the CDC has established a “Community Transmission” metric with 4 tiers designed to reflect a community’s COVID-19 case rate and percent positivity; and,

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo currently has a Community Transmission metric of “substantial” which is the second most serious of the tiers; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission has an important governmental interest in protecting the health, safety and welfare of those who participate in its meetings; and,

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Commission deems it necessary to find that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and thus intends to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. The Commission finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
3. Staff is directed to return no later than thirty (30) days after the adoption of this resolution with an item for the Commission to consider making the findings required by AB 361 in order to continue meeting under its provisions.
4. Staff is directed to take such other necessary or appropriate actions to implement the intent and purposes of this resolution.

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San Mateo County Youth Commission



To: San Mateo County Youth Commission

From: San Mateo County Youth Commission Education & Economic Development Committee

Subject: Resolution of "Equitable Education Declaration"

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution in support of the "Equitable Education Declaration".

BACKGROUND:

The Equitable Education Declaration was created to make our educational systems in San Mateo County more equitable for all students. The declaration was drafted by youth who have faced and witnessed challenges in the equity of our education system in San Mateo County and are united to bring this to local school boards.

DISCUSSION:

The Education & Economic Development Committee is asking for your support and we expect many local schools to enact the resolution in 2022 and in upcoming years.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

**INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT
DECLARATION OF EQUITABLE EDUCATION**

A resolution of the INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT expressing the urgency of discrimination in schools, students being unaware of their rights, and a single-story narrative. We are calling upon INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT to consider including San Mateo County Youth Rights posters in each classroom, implement a special education task force in the county, introducing a more racially diverse range of books at elementary schools, and mandatory cultural sensitivity training for school staff.

WHEREAS, time is of the essence; the actions *INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT* does or does not take now and within the next few years will shape the education of current students as well as future generations to come; and,

WHEREAS, Students are not informed of the boundaries granted in a school environment and this misinformation or unawareness of their rights prevents them from standing up against unjust treatment and knowing the extent to which they may act; and,

WHEREAS, many students with learning disabilities need additional assistance during their educational journey, and inadequate resources hinder the educational equity in our county; and,

WHEREAS, San Mateo County is an ethnically and economically diverse collective, and every school district in the county is impacted as the lack of cultural representation continues to hinder the sentiment of inclusion amongst students; and,

WHEREAS, in light of the shift in acceptable language and treatment, teachers need to be educated around how to address each culture and improve teaching styles to better reflect the ethnic makeup of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the *INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT* has a responsibility of allocating consideration and representation of all peoples as well as providing a safe environment for students within San Mateo County.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that

1. We declare that all campuses include a San Mateo County Youth Rights poster which is easily visible in each classroom; and
2. We commit to creating a committee focused on the inequities in special education systems to expand and improve resources. In doing this the quality of learning for students with learning disabilities will be better curated to truly benefit each student; and
3. We declare that 15-25% of books in school libraries represent characters of color; and
4. We declare that all teachers must attend training sessions that address racial and cultural bias to create an inclusive and safe class environment for its students.



San Mateo County Youth Commission



To: San Mateo County Youth Commission

From: Youth Commissioners Catherine Warden, Penelope Stinson, Nicholas Reed, Katelyn Chang, and Valeria Chavez-Franco

Subject: Resolution Requesting Updates to Sexual Assault Policies and Supporting Survivors

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution urging the San Mateo Union High School District to reconsider policies, support survivors, and ensure the threat of sexual violence against students is minimized.

BACKGROUND:

A Resolution urging San Mateo County and San Mateo Union High School District (SMUHSD) to reconsider policies, support survivors, and ensure the threat of sexual violence against students is minimized is presented and initiated by a coalition on the Youth Commission focused on combatting sexual violence and harassment in San Mateo County schools. This task force recognizes that the mishandling of Sexual Assault has been a consistent problem in San Mateo schools and student action and advocacy has brought this issue to light in recent years. The resolution calls for San Mateo County to reconsider its policies, education, treatment, and support for survivors of sexual assault. Specifically, if passed, the resolution will address the gaps in the curriculum of healthy relationships and the handling of sexual violence incidents by school administration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

RESOLUTION URGING SAN MATEO COUNTY AND SAN MATEO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (SMUHSD) TO RECONSIDER POLICIES, SUPPORT SURVIVORS, AND ENSURE THE THREAT OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST STUDENTS IS MINIMIZED

WHEREAS, the mishandling of Sexual Assault has been a consistent problem in San Mateo schools and student action and advocacy has brought this issue to light; and

WHEREAS, Student Sexual Abuse Response Guidelines for San Mateo County Schools and Law Enforcement has not been updated since 2018; and

WHEREAS, cases of Sexual Assault throughout San Mateo County show that student input has not been a priority to school administrations; and

WHEREAS, gendered language in Student Sexual Assault Guidelines and Response Material excludes many whom may face sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, in San Mateo County, teachers often hold too much discretion on how to handle reports of sexual assault brought forward by students; and

WHEREAS, according to Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN), 38% of victims of sexual violence experience work or school problems, which can include significant problems with peers and superiors; and

WHEREAS, according to Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA), 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men in San Mateo County will experience intimate partner abuse; and

WHEREAS, SMUHSD has a responsibility to ensure that their students have access to the information and skills they need to prevent sexual assault and other forms of violence; and

WHEREAS, handling sexual assault solely within school districts can create conflicts of interest for counselors and adult administrators within SMUHSD that can prevent students from receiving the aid they need; and

WHEREAS, teachers must be trained in how to handle sexual assault cases; and

WHEREAS, according to UC San Diego Health, in the state of California, reported incidences of sexual harassment are 5 percent higher for women and 10 percent higher for men than the nation average; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HERBY RESOLVED that

1. A certain percentage of teachers from each school should be provided with a higher level of training and education on how to handle sexual assault. Training should include: the definitions of sexual harassment and assault, reporting procedures, and supporting students. Students can then feel more comfortable talking about and sharing their experiences with these teachers. Furthermore, these teachers will be more capable of handling cases of sexual assault; and
2. SMUHSD students must be thoroughly taught and educated in the district's policies on sexual harassment and assault; and
3. The Youth Commission strongly encourages SMUHSD to adopt policies mandating trainings for students from Rape Trauma Services or similar organizations to further educate students on understanding sexual assault and harassment, as well as all other relevant resources for preventing sexual assault and protecting victims; and
4. A Task Force be created with experts and students included to review Sexual Assault guidelines and work with schools to update policies; and

5. A review of the Student Sexual Abuse Response Guidelines for San Mateo Country Schools and Law Enforcement every two fiscal years; and,
6. If a member of staff suspects Sexual Assault, documentation must occur immediately; and
7. SMUHSD requires health class curriculums to include thorough lessons on sexual assault, the importance of consent in all relationships, and how to have a healthy relationship. Outside experts and organizations may teach this curriculum; and
8. San Mateo County schools must enlist the help of external professionals to handle both cases of sexual assault to ensure a more fair and informed response from professionals.

