



Anne E. Campbell • County Superintendent of Schools

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Excellence in Education and Equity Award Finalists Named

REDWOOD CITY, CALIF.—The San Mateo County Office of Education announced today the four finalists for the 2018 Excellence in Education and Equity Award. The award, initiated this year by the County Office, recognizes a team of educators from among the Kent Award recipients for its collaborative work in closing the achievement and opportunity gaps in San Mateo County. The winning team will be announced at the San Mateo County School Board Association dinner on Friday, May 18th, and receive a plaque and \$5,000 to continue to develop its program.

The finalists include:

- Farallone View Elementary (Cabrillo Unified School District) for the Farallone View Extended Academic Center
- McKinley Institute of Technology (Redwood City School District) for the Family Literacy Initiative
- San Mateo Union High School District for the Mental Health Wellness Program
- East Palo Alto Academy (Sequoia Union High School District) for College Going East Palo Alto Academy

The Excellence in Education and Equity Award replaces the County Office of Education’s Teacher of the Year Award, which attracted few applicants. Many teachers said they didn’t pursue the award because they believed their successful initiatives often involved other teachers and school staff. Thus, the County Office decided to celebrate this teamwork approach to education and honor a program that reflects the County Office’s vision of Excellence and Equity in Education and its work to close the achievement and opportunity gaps in the County.

“The Excellence in Education and Equity Award continues our work to highlight and celebrate teams that are successfully closing achievement and opportunity gaps in the County. Since this work is so important, we must identify and learn from those who are achieving success,” explained San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools Anne E. Campbell.

The awards ceremony will be held on Friday, May 18th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City.

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The San Mateo County Office of Education is committed to ensuring excellence and equity in education by inspiring students, investing in teachers, invigorating leaders and involving communities.