



Anne E. Campbell • County Superintendent of Schools

NEWS RELEASE

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Ravenswood City School District Approves Facilities Use Agreement with SMCOE

REDWOOD CITY, CALIF.—The Ravenswood City School District Board approved an agreement tonight with the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) for the use of the district’s Child Development Center (CDC) facility. The facility will continue to host a California State Preschool (CSP) program, which SMCOE will oversee beginning July 1, 2018.

As part of the agreement, SMCOE will have access to eight classrooms. That number will grow by four classrooms over the next two years. The agreement expires on June 30, 2021, however it can be extended for an additional two years. Since SMCOE administers CSP contracts and does not operate programs, SMCOE will contract with the Institute for Human and Social Development, Inc. (IHSD) to operate the CSP program located at the CDC. IHSD has operated in San Mateo County for 35 years and serves over 250 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers currently in CSP programs overseen by SMCOE.

The CDC will close on June 30, and the new preschool hopes to reopen in mid-August, after IHSD completes the State licensing process. SMCOE has been working closely with the Childcare Coordinating Council of San Mateo County (4Cs) and the City of East Palo Alto to identify and pay for childcare spaces for children who might otherwise be displaced while the CDC facility is closed during the summer. SMCOE, CDC, and 4Cs staff met with parents earlier this week to begin the placement process for those children. Once the center reopens, all of the children currently enrolled in the CDC will be able to return to the facility.

“Reaching this agreement is an important milestone in ensuring the children and families of Ravenswood will continue to have access to quality preschool at the CDC site,” commented County Superintendent Anne Campbell. “We appreciate the efforts of the Ravenswood School Board and staff as they’ve worked together with us to reach an agreement for use of the CDC facility. We now need to move as quickly as possible to assist IHSD as they move into the CDC and prepare to offer preschool and childcare.”

For more information, please contact Jean-Marie Houston at jmhouston@smcoe.org or 650-802-5623.

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