



Anne E. Campbell • County Superintendent of Schools

NEWS RELEASE

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San Mateo County Comes Together to Support Ravenswood Children

REDWOOD CITY, CALIF.– Several government and educational organizations, foundations, and a non-profit have come together to support the children and families of the Child Development Center (CDC), located in a Ravenswood City School District facility. Due to budget cuts, Ravenswood will be closing the CDC on June 30th with a new child care provider reopening the Center on August 15th. The CDC's closure has resulted in a critical need for childcare during the six weeks that the Center will be closed this summer. The San Mateo County Office of Education, the City of East Palo Alto, First 5 San Mateo County, 4Cs of San Mateo County, and local foundations are working together with Ravenswood City School District staff to find and fund summer childcare and preschool options for the children and to help fund the transition to the new preschool.

At its June 7th meeting, the East Palo Alto City Council approved funds to help cover the cost of childcare or preschool for many of the students in the CDC program during the summer gap. The County Office of Education committed funds to support the transition to the new preschool and several locally-based foundations plan to join the effort. The 4Cs and the County Office worked to find a childcare or preschool spot for each child.

Superintendent of Schools Anne E. Campbell commended all of the organizations for “their support of the families and children during this transition period. Everyone has put children first and has committed more than just words and good intentions to this effort. This collaboration is exactly what we need to do to support our children and their families.”

The CDC facility will continue to host a [California State Preschool \(CSP\) program](#), which SMCOE will oversee and the Institute for Human and Social Development, Inc. (IHSD) will operate once it completes the State licensing process for the site. 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.

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

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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.