The mission of the San Mateo County Office of Education is to ensure and improve the quality of learning for all students in San Mateo County by providing exemplary leadership and innovative, effective programs and services which enable local districts and the county office to educate students to realize their potential. In pursuit of this mission, the Office shall offer educational programs that:

1. Coordinate with local districts to provide direct educational services to students, when appropriate, whose needs cannot be met as effectively by local districts.

2. Assist local school districts in developing educational programs which reflect the economic, geographic, physical, political, cultural and social diversity of their communities and which meet the standards and guidelines established by the State for the public schools of California.

3. Provide leadership and support for local school districts, and work with districts to identify and implement effective cooperative actions.

4. Assist, with the participation of competent and experienced educators and the public, in predicting and preparing to meet future needs not currently part of the educational program.

5. Provide information about educational goals, programs, standards, and activities to the public and to the profession, openly and consistently.

6. Maintain its role as liaison between districts and the California Department of Education with promptness and accuracy.

7. Encourage and work with professional and lay organizations, local, state, regional and national, which are committed to the improvement of education for all children.

8. Monitor and assist in improving the availability, quality and use of instructional materials in local districts.

9. Provide professional development programs for board members, teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, volunteers and interested members of the public when such programs support the goals of education in one or more districts.

10. Provide for and encourage public participation at all levels of educational activity, and ensure broad and balanced representation wherever feasible in planning and conducting activities at the county level.
11. Review annually the priorities established by the Board and encourage the
development of planned programs of educational activity to address those priorities.

12. Encourage staff members to participate in educational seminars, conferences,
conventions and professional organizations appropriate to their individual needs and the
needs of the Office.

13. Seek contractual arrangements with other governmental agencies – federal, state,
county, local district – which will improve the availability and effectiveness of resources
to educate students in the county.

14. Provide impartial and objective instruction and encourage informed, reasoned
study and decision-making on the part of students.

15. Establish and administer a Regional Occupational Program to prepare students for
employment, advanced training or postsecondary education.

16. When determined by the Superintendent to be necessary, provide one or more
community schools for pupils who are expelled from school, referred by a local district,
probation-referred, and/or homeless.

17. Promote and/or provide high-quality preschool experiences for children ages three
to five to help them develop knowledge, skills, and attributes necessary to transition into
the elementary education program.

18. Develop and promulgate procedures to minimize classroom interruptions.

19. Advocate for and defend the rights and the welfare of children and youth
throughout the county.

Legal References:

Education Code 1980 County community schools
Education Code 8200-8264.8 Child Care and Development Services Act
Education Code 32212 Classroom interruptions
Education Code 51000-51009 Legislative intent
Education Code 51220 Adopted course of study
Education Code 52301 Establishing regional occupational centers/programs

Adopted SMCBE 01/19/72; Revised 12/08/08; (Replaces BP 6310.1 and BP 6330.1)