



Ask Dr. Rodriguez



Ten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Edition #11 2023-24 School Year – Week of October 30, 2023

Questions are quoted as I received them directly from our community.

- 1. I have a concern regarding supplies for preschool classrooms. I am familiar that many of them do not have adequate supplies (i.e. paper, markers, manipulatives, paint, etc.) in order for teachers to properly move through the curriculum. Teachers are typically buying items out of their own money. Can you provide a reasoning or budget breakdown?**

Preschool teachers receive individual budgets to order needed classroom supplies each year. This year teachers received a \$500 budget to purchase needed items from Lakeshore and a \$150 budget to purchase items from Southwest School Supply. Teachers are also encouraged to provide food experience lessons throughout the year. Each teacher receives a \$150 budget to spend on needed items from Food 4 Less. The Preschool Department regularly evaluates preschool classrooms and orders replacement items for furniture or instructional materials that become worn or broken. If there is additional need, I encourage staff to reach out to their Director.

- 2. When is the town hall on Special Education being held?**

The town hall will be held on Monday, November 6, 2023 at Walton Special Center in the Thelma Stewart Training Room between 5:15-6:30pm. Below is the notice that was sent to families, placed on our website and shared through social media.

TOWN HALL MEETING

WITH
Dr. Michelle Rodriguez
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Based on feedback from the Listening Sessions we have identified **Special Education** as an important topic of discussion. Please join us and make your voice heard!

Monday
November 6, 2023

Start At
5:15 pm - 6:30 pm

Join us!

Walton Special Center -
Thelma Stewart Training Room
4131 N. Crown Ave.
Stockton, CA. 95207

People who cannot be present can provide input through "Let's Talk" using the QR code.





3. My son just had the day off school on Wednesday. Is there really no school again next Friday?

There will be no school on Friday, November 10, 2023 in observance of Veteran's Day.

4. I'm curious what the justification is for the expense of cell phones for admin?

The expense of cell phones for administrators is justified due to our District's newly implemented Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) surrounding communication during significant site incidents and the recent implementation of Catapult EMS for emergency communication.

The use of cell phones for administrators aligns with our commitment to maintaining swift, efficient, and reliable communication channels during critical incidents. These devices are an essential component of our emergency communication protocol outlined in the SOPs. The SOPs emphasize the need for instant and widespread communication among key personnel to effectively manage and respond to significant incidents.

The introduction of Catapult EMS further reinforces the importance of having dedicated cell phones for administrators. This new implementation provides a specialized and secure platform designed specifically for emergency communication. With Catapult EMS, we will have an emergency communication plan that provides clear, centralized, and informed communication with staff, sites, departments, district and law enforcement. The system will allow us to use real-time student accounting, reunification, staff location check-ins, and threat report management. While Catapult EMS enhances our ability to communicate during emergencies, having dedicated cell phones for administrators ensures accessibility and reliability in using this platform.

In emergency situations, the efficiency and speed of communication are of utmost importance. Cell phones for administrators serve as a direct and immediate means to disseminate critical information, coordinate responses, and ensure the safety and well-being of individuals involved in such incidents.

5. My principal told me that he created a Site Safety Team for the Catapult system? Who is supposed to be on that team? I would like to be on it.

A Site Safety Team is a group of people, usually associated with a school site campus, that are responsible for school safety. In addition to emergency response, the Safety Team will be responsible for emergency notifications, staff communication, student accountability, and user management.

Each site should have the following number of individuals on their Safety Team:

- Elementary schools: 4-6 members
- Middle schools: 7-10 members
- High schools: 10-15 members

Generally, these members are the following:

- Principals
- Vice Principals
- School Resource Officers
- Office Managers
- Counselors

6. **I was reading the State of the District report. How many priority recommendations are there? How will you get them all done?**

The State of the District report outlines 44 priority recommendations within the four key areas of Quality Assurance, High Expectations, Continuous Improvement and Community Trust, that we aim to address. Achieving these objectives will require concerted efforts from all staff and departments, working collaboratively to ensure we meet these goals. It's a comprehensive task that demands the collective dedication and cooperation of our entire team to successfully implement and address these recommendations.

7. **I came to the Administrative Building and saw that the offices were going to be closed for the holiday break. When will you be closed?**

The Administrative Buildings and school sites will be closed the entire week of Thanksgiving Break from Monday, November 20 through Friday, November 24, 2023. If there is an emergency, you can call our Department of Public Safety at 209-933-7085.

8. **I want to enroll my child in preschool. Do you still have space available?**

We are still accepting applications for California State Preschool and Head Start. We are accepting walk-in appointments every Friday from 9:00-3:00pm at our SUSD Early Childhood Education/School Readiness Center at 1144 E. Channel Street.

9. **I need my transcript for a job. How do I get my high school transcript?**

You can obtain your transcript through the link provided: [Transcript/Records Request Form](#) In addition, we are open to the public for walk-in request for records and transcripts. We are located at 1144 East Channel Street, Room 105 Stockton, CA 95205. Please bring a State ID or Driver's License. Processing Transcript Hours: Monday through Friday - 7:30am - 11:30am & 1pm - 3:30pm.

10. **I am trying to understand SUSD's policy around charter school enrolled High School students and their participation in public high school sports. I have a student who plans to continue attending his charter school into high school, but his charter school does not offer sports. He would like to have the opportunity to play sports at our neighborhood high school. What is SUSD's policy for these cases?**

SUSD has an approved multi school agreement with the CIF that allows our dependent charter/specialty school students to participate at their home comprehensive high schools. For example, if a SECA student wanted to play football, they would play football at their home school (Edison, Franklin, Chavez or Stagg). This has been extremely successful and beneficial for our students who want the small school environment and still want to compete in sports at the large high schools. Interested students should connect with the school's athletic director.