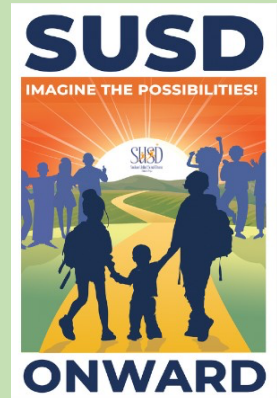




# Ask Dr. Rodriguez



## Ten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Edition #13 2024-25 School Year – Week of November 4, 2024

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

- 1. Hi, can you provide a breakdown for SUSD Transportation for school field trips? I have asked for an invoice for previous trips and I am given a total not an itemized list of the charges. When students are the ones paying, which means parents are paying I believe we should know. Can you have them provide this and make field trip transportation more affordable?**

An itemized breakdown would be helpful, especially when students and parents are covering the costs. I will work with our Transportation team to ensure that future invoices provide a clear breakdown of charges, including the hourly rate of \$57.00 and the mileage rate of \$4.75 per mile, so families can understand exactly how the costs are calculated.

Our current rates were last adjusted a few years ago, and after reviewing them, we will re-evaluate to see if we can balance covering our costs with making trips more affordable for everyone. I appreciate your feedback on this and will keep the staff and community updated on any changes to our pricing structure.

- 2. I heard you were providing a computer for the home for each student. My son needs one now. What can I do?**

SUSD is proud to support a unique 2-to-1 Chromebook ratio, meaning we're ensuring students have the tools they need for learning both at school and at home. We're currently rolling out this initiative across the district, but if your child needs a device urgently, please don't hesitate to contact the library media staff or office staff at your child's school. They can assist in checking out a Chromebook for your child to use at home.

- 3. I am worried that my child will not receive a Chromebook for home as we have a current charge from last year. Will she still receive one?**

Your child will still be able to receive a Chromebook for home. We are working on clearing out old Chromebook charges to ensure that all students have the tools they need to succeed this year. You can visit the school site to check out another Chromebook, and if you have any questions, feel free to reach out to our Tech & Innovation team at 209-933-7090.

**4. I see meetings at other sites for Equity Multiplier funds. Who received them and why? My site did not receive additional funds and we need them.**

The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Equity Multiplier provides additional funding for school sites based on specific criteria set by the California Department of Education (CDE). For the 2024-2025 school year, funds were allocated to sites with a non-stability rate exceeding 25% and a socioeconomically disadvantaged pupil rate greater than 70% based on data from the prior year.

For our district, Adams, El Dorado, Madison, Van Buren, Stagg, Jane Frederick, and Stockton High met the criteria established by CDE, and each was allocated a portion of the \$5.7 million total funding. These determinations are reviewed annually each February to ensure that eligible sites with high levels of need receive the intended support.

**5. I did not get to attend the parent training on the IEP Process. Can you tell me how I can get that information?**

Our Parent Educational Presentation (PEP) Workshop on the IEP process was held on November 6, 2024, at the Family Resource Center and featured presentations by Angela Dunne, Special Education Administrator, and Beatriz Perez, Special Education Program Specialist. They offered a thorough overview of the IEP process, covering each section of the IEP and explaining the vital role of parental involvement.

A key resource introduced during the workshop was the IEP Parent Resource Binder, designed to help parents stay organized and informed. The binder contains prompts, reminders, and tracking tools to support active engagement in the IEP process. Many parents who attended found it extremely valuable, with some learning new strategies to enhance their role in their child's educational journey.

You can access the presentation slides here: [Presentation Link](#). If you would like a copy of the IEP Parent Resource Binder, please contact Mary Perez at [meperez@stocktonusd.net](mailto:meperez@stocktonusd.net) in the Special Education Office.

**6. Why did SUSD have off on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. It made it difficult for me as I still had to work.**

Each school district in California has the flexibility to determine the best way to schedule its 180 days of instruction, and some districts, including SUSD, have chosen to take the day after Halloween off to support the needs of students and staff.

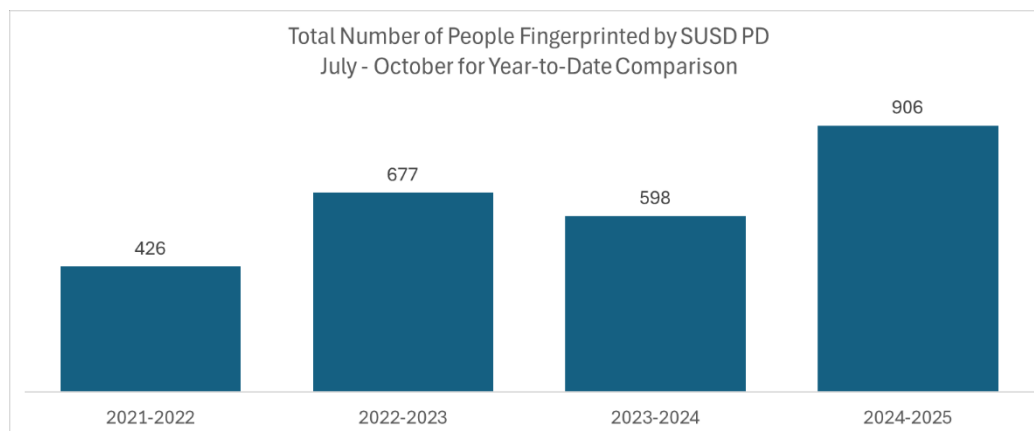
We are beginning the process of planning for the 2026-2027 school calendar and welcome any feedback from both staff and families. Your input is invaluable in helping us create a schedule that works well for our community.

7. **I am wondering why there are no toilet seat covers in the children's restrooms. Last year I brought this concern to the office. Now this year I have communicated again with the school. I have daughters and not only those young girls on their menstrual cycle each month being able to stay clean and comfortable and use a toilet seat cover in the restroom, but being able to have access to toilet seat covers for all children! I spoke with many parents they have the same concern. This is a health and safety concern for our students. Adult restrooms have toilet seat covers and holders, but our SUSD student bathrooms do not?**

We appreciate on-going feedback, as it helps us ensure that our students have a safe and comfortable environment. We have evaluated our District standards and recognized the need for greater consistency across school sites in providing toilet seat covers in all student restrooms. We are actively working towards implementing this standard district-wide. We have already begun the implementation of the toilet seat dispensers.

8. **I wanted to become a volunteer for my daughter's school and went to get fingerprinted and had to wait 20 minutes in line then an additional 15 minutes to be fingerprinted. Why does it take so long?**

The District has seen a significant increase in the number of people needing to be fingerprinted, unfortunately increasing wait times. From the start of the school year to date (July to October) fingerprinting services have increased 113% since 2021-2022 (see below).



This drive in demand comes from all types of services including employee applicants, volunteers and district contractors. The highest increase is in volunteers (+522% since 2021-2022). This increase can be attributed to schools engaging more with families, as indicated in their School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA). Within this plan all schools are required to develop “Meaningful Partnerships” (Goal 3.1) and many schools are focusing their efforts on increasing the number of volunteers. In addition, there was an update in law that all contractors, anyone who may have contact with children, must be fingerprinted, which has caused a 680% increase in district contractor fingerprinting.

To address the increase, the police department moved from appointment only to a walk-in process to accommodate more people, but with the extra increase, we were still unable to reduce wait times or address site needs. To further assist our families and employees, the District will be expanding our fingerprint division by adding an additional fingerprint technician, fingerprint machine to expedite the process for all our applicants, and increase hours of operation. In addition, we will continue with the Volunteer Fingerprinting Fairs similar to the one that we had at the beginning of the year.

**9. I need a transcript for my child. Where can I get one?**

You may request a transcript or elementary records from the Student Records Department through the following link: [Transcript/Records Request Form](#). You may also request the records in person. We are open to the public for walk in requests. 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). [Cash](#) or [Money orders](#) are the only form of payment accepted at this time. If you have any questions, please feel free to email us directly at: [cwarequest@stocktonusd.net](mailto:cwarequest@stocktonusd.net).

**10. How do I apply to be a substitute in the District?**

SUSD welcomes dedicated community members who want to positively impact the lives of our students to apply for either certificated or classified substitute positions. Below are the links to the EdJoin postings:

[Certificated Substitute Teacher EdJoin Posting](#)

[Classified Substitute Employee EdJoin Posting](#)