



Education Report

Thursday, 28th January, 2016

To: Board of Directors of AVCA

From: Vandana Kadam, Education Chair

Subject: Vaccination update & STEAM

More on Vaccination!!

Gov. Jerry Brown signed into law on **June 30, 2015** a bill that says parents can no longer refuse to vaccinate their children in public or private schools and child care centers based on their personal opposition. Now schools and parents are parsing the fine print to put the new law, Senate Bill 277, into practice.

As of Jan. 1, 2016, parents may no longer obtain a personal belief exemption to 10 school-required vaccinations. **As of July 1, 2016**, students must meet the vaccination requirements at certain vaccination check points, unless they have a medical exemption or are attending school at home or independently with no classroom instruction. See below for details.

Most school districts in California will be affected, with 47 out of 58 California counties in 2014-15 reporting they had kindergartners with personal belief exemptions to school-required vaccinations.

STEAM at SJUSD

San Jose Unified District (SJUSD) students at two elementary schools (**Anne Darling & Olinder**) will soon begin participating in hands-on activities that explore **science, technology, engineering, arts & mathematics (STEAM) as part of the school district's new STEAM program.** This is due to a grant earned from the city of San Jose & the Silicon Valley Community Foundation. Mayor Sam Liccardo made the official announcement at the School of Arts & Culture at the Mexican Heritage Plaza on Thursday, December 3, 2015.

“San Jose Unified’s mission is to eliminate the opportunity gap and this grant contributes to that mission – offering our students access to a program where they will have the opportunity to discover their passion that could eventually lead them to a successful career”, says SJUSD Interim Superintendent of Schools Nancy Albarran.

This program will be offered after school to 100 students in total from both schools. The district is targeting K-3 students to help them increase literacy & mathematics performance. The total amount of the grant is \$240,000, which will help the school district to support expanded after-school STEAM enrichment opportunities closely tied to early literacy instruction in the classroom. The program will launch at both schools beginning in the winter of 2016.

Anne Darling Elementary | 333 North 33rd Street, San Jose, CA 95133

Olinder Elementary School | 890 East William Street, San Jose, CA 95116