



Education Report

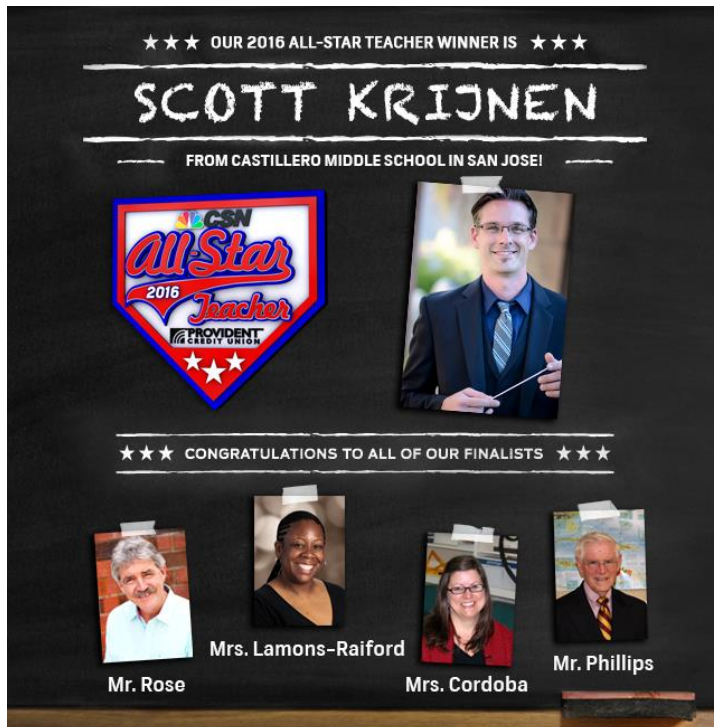
Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2016

**To: Board of Directors of AVCA**

**From: Vandana Kadam, Education Chair**

**Subject: All Star Teacher Award, GoOpen Initiative & Nutrition program**

**Our very own Scott Krijnen was voted the All-Star Teacher for 2016**



Scott Krijnen has taught orchestra at Castillero and Redwood Middle School for the past 11 years. Taking over two programs in 2005 with a total of 80 students, he currently works with over 550 musicians per day through nine classes, six at Castillero and three at Redwood as an after school program.

Mr. Krijnen believes that all students should have free and equal access to educational opportunities and has worked tirelessly with the community to help raise over \$100,000 over the past 11 years to provide free instruments to every student who joins the orchestra program at Castillero. Because of such incredible community effort, Scott has been able to lead public school programs in which every student is able to attend every trip, every tour and every festival regardless of income or socioeconomic status. Under his

leadership, the orchestras have garnered a widespread reputation for having students who are engaged, grateful and excited to learn. His students take pride in living by their motto, "It's always your choice.....choose to be great."

Scott is a Presser Scholar from the University of Idaho and earned his Masters in Cello Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music receiving the Chamber Music Award. He has toured Korea and Taiwan as part of the KAS Piano Trio and has performed and played with dozens of orchestras and chamber ensembles. In 2011, he was awarded Teacher of the Year at Castillero and in 2016, he has been named the Richard L. Levin Orchestra Educator of the year for the state of California.

Every day is a chance to be great and Scott gets to witness that each day with his incredible students, parents, colleagues and community. He is truly grateful for getting to share his love and joy for the arts with his students but more importantly, for helping students realize that they are the reason for their success.

## State Schools Superintendent Tom Torlakson Announces Launch of #GoOpen Initiative and Collaboration in Common Professional Learning Community

SACRAMENTO— August, 2016

California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced the launch of both a new statewide #GoOpen initiative and Collaboration in Common, an online professional learning community and resource exchange platform for all California educators.

In joining the #GoOpen initiative, California becomes the sixteenth state recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for its commitment to support school districts and educators transitioning to the use of high-quality, openly licensed educational resources.

California was recognized for its commitment to a statewide technology strategy that includes the use of openly licensed resources as a central component, developing and maintaining a statewide repository, and participating in a community of practice with other #GoOpen states and districts to share learning and professional development resources. More information on #GoOpen can be found at the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Educational Technology Web site.

Collaboration in Common resulted from a public-private partnership among the California Department of Education (CDE), the Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation, and the Palo Alto-based technology company **Declara**. Collaboration in Common runs on Declara's artificial intelligence engine to combine machine learning and crowd curation to allow teachers to find, consume, share resources, and gain insights from peer educators.

Torlakson urged all California teachers to visit Collaboration In Common and sign up to become early adopters in the digital community. Early adopters will be among the first to gain access to Collaboration in Common's tools and resources as the Web site is developed.

"Collaboration in Common is a great example of how California looks for innovative ways to improve teaching and learning throughout our diverse state," Torlakson said. "We are leveraging technology and our talented teaching workforce to create a first-of-its-kind professional learning community and resource exchange that will offer professional development and access to new ideas and resources to benefit all of our schools."

## State Schools Chief Tom Torlakson Announces Updated List of Programs Serving Nutritious Meals to Low-Income Families

SACRAMENTO—July 2016

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced today that disadvantaged families in California can find updated lists of child and adult care centers offering nutritious meals at low- or no-cost through the California Department of Education's Web site.

Meals are free or reduced price depending on household income guidelines. For example, a family of four earning \$31,525 a year (up from \$31,005 last year) can qualify for free meals and snacks. A family of four earning \$44,863 a year (up from \$44,123 last year) also qualifies.

Free Eligibility Scale: Meals, Snacks

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$15,301	\$1,276	\$638	\$589	\$295
2	20,709	1,726	863	797	399
3	26,117	2,177	1,089	1005	503
4	31,525	2,628	1,314	1,213	607
5	36,933	3,078	1,539	1,421	711
6	42,341	3,529	1,765	1,629	815
7	47,749	3,980	1,990	1,837	919
8	53,157	4,430	2,215	2,045	1,023

For each additional family member, add:	\$5,408	\$451	\$226	\$208	\$104
---	---------	-------	-------	-------	-------

Reduced-Price Eligibility Scale: Meals and Snacks

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$ 21,775	\$ 1,815	\$ 908	\$ 838	\$ 419
2	29,471	2,456	1,228	1,134	567
3	37,167	3,098	1,549	1,430	715
4	44,863	3,739	1,870	1,726	863
5	52,559	4,380	2,190	2,022	1,011
6	60,255	5,022	2,511	2,318	1,159
7	67,951	5,663	2,832	2,614	1,307
8	75,647	6,304	3,152	2,910	1,455
For each additional family member, add:	\$7,696	\$642	\$321	\$296	\$148