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Jodee Brentlinger

November 5, 2021

Dear Solana Beach School District families, please find two important updates below:

COVID-19 Vaccinations for Children Ages 5-11

As you may be aware, on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, the COVID-19 vaccination was approved by the FDA and is now available for children ages 5-11. The CDC has issued a recommendation for children in this age group to be vaccinated. In preparation, Solana Beach School District is finalizing:

1. The process for families to provide proof of vaccination status
2. Voluntary onsite vaccination clinic schedules to support families

Please expect more detailed information in the upcoming weeks about both of these items.

*At this time, the vaccine created by Pfizer is the only one available to individuals ages 5 to 11. According to the FDA, the vaccine is administered as a two-dose primary series, three weeks apart, but is a lower dose (10 micrograms) than that used for individuals 12 years of age and older (30 micrograms). If you plan to get your child vaccinated, first check with your health care provider for availability. If you cannot get a vaccination from a health care provider, visit myturn.ca.gov or the [County of San Diego vaccination website](#), or check with your local pharmacy or community clinic. To learn more about COVID-19 vaccines and the vaccination process, please visit the county's [resource webpage](#).

An important reminder: Although vaccine availability for children 5 to 11 moves us one step closer to California's plan to mandate vaccines for all school-aged children, the state's new regulation won't apply until vaccines for juveniles, ages 12-17, and children, ages 5-11, have been fully authorized by the FDA. Once the vaccines are fully approved, students will have until the next term to complete their vaccinations in order to attend school in person. State officials have said that July 1 is the earliest the mandate is expected to begin.

Book Donations to Solana Beach School Libraries and Schools

School Libraries- In the spring of 2021 a set of 15 elementary-age trade books was donated to each Solana Beach School District campus from the Gender Nation organization. These books have a common theme of self-acceptance and being comfortable with being different, with an emphasis on those who may not conform to gender norms and/or those whose gender does not match their biological sex assigned at birth.

Solana Ranch School Library - Solana Ranch recently received a donation of trade books from local Girl Scouts Troop #4524. Approximately 60 books, a mixture of picture and chapter books, have a common theme of environmental compassion and care for the Earth, and were donated in support of the efforts of the EnviroHawks.

Solana Vista School Library - Solana Vista recently received a donation of trade books from The Conscious Kid organization. The ten picture books, donated to Title I schools, feature Asian authors and illustrators with the goal of amplifying Asian-American Pacific Islander (AAPI) voices.

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WHERE LEARNERS FIND THEIR VOICE, SHARE THEIR GIFTS, AND ADVANCE THE WORLD

[Solana Beach School District Board Policy 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests](#) - requires that donations be Board approved, and that gifts of books and instructional materials may only be accepted if they meet district criteria for the selection of instructional materials. Click here to view [Board Policy 6161.1](#) and [Administrative Regulation 6161.1](#), which guide the selection of instructional materials.

When incorporating supplementary instructional materials, such as trade books, into school libraries, the following guiding principles are used as criteria for selection:

- Afford students opportunities to recognize the contributions of people from a variety of groups throughout history in the context of the local community, state, country, and world (texts are representative of all groups of people from local and broader communities).
- Embed opportunities for students, families, staff, and community members to share their experiences and hear the experiences of all groups of people, both in and out of school settings (including those from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious backgrounds, those with a range of abilities, and those from across the gender spectrum).
- Purposes include instructive, recreational, building a love of and appreciation for reading, and boosting students' social and emotional competencies. Therefore, the texts under consideration may support one or more of the following:
 - Relevance to adopted course(s) of study and curricular goals, inclusive of California state content standards and associated frameworks.
 - Support for social and emotional competencies, as defined by the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)
- Present multiple perspectives on topics as a means of promoting critical thinking.
- Honor and respect individual families' personal, political, cultural, and religious beliefs.

The book donations described above will be presented to the Board of Education at the regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, November 18. In preparation and in conjunction with BP 6161.1, we would like to extend the opportunity for parents, guardians, and families to preview any or all of the books being donated.

All books will be available for parent and family preview, from November 9-18. Please expect a letter from your school principal sharing how to schedule a time to preview these materials.

Sincerely,

Jodee Brentlinger, Superintendent

Next Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, November 18, 2021, via Zoom, at 6:30 p.m.

