



SIERRA CLUB

LOMA PRIETA CHAPTER

SAN MATEO, SANTA CLARA & SAN BENITO COUNTIES

November 4th, 2021

Santa Clara County Office of Education
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San Jose, CA 95131

Via email to:

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RE: SCCOE Partnership with BOS to Support Comprehensive Environmental Literacy and Education

Dear Board Members of the Santa Clara County Office of Education,

The Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter encourages the Office of Education to take swift action to formalize a partnership with the Board of Supervisors to develop comprehensive environmental literacy and education programs, with opportunities for students to get involved. The urgency of the climate crisis requires us to act quickly, and an informed public is critical to the County's success in climate action.

On October 5th, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a referral to Administration and County Counsel to report to the Board with options for consideration to establish a Santa Clara County Sustainability Commission. The referral passed with a motion stating that the Board of Supervisors should partner with the County Office of Education to support comprehensive environmental literacy and education.

Details of the motion for your review:

The following motion was made by Supervisor Chavez (as written in the meeting minutes): "At the request of Supervisor Chavez, the Board directed Administration to provide an off-agenda report to the Board on date uncertain relating to an analysis of the impact of the Commission on existing staff workloads in the Office of Sustainability; and, to partner with the Santa Clara County Office of Education relating to the formation of the Commission."

The specifics of Chavez's suggested partnership with the Santa Clara County Office of Education can be found in the meeting video, in which she stated "the idea that the students raised about the partnership with the Santa Clara County Office of Education" within her motion. This quote was recorded verbatim from the video.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyqknxYdlTc>

Timestamp: [1:02:08-1:02:40]

Supervisor Chavez is referring to the partnership suggested by Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action (SVYCA), in their letter (see attachment "SVYCA Letter") to the Board of Supervisors. The statement from the SVYCA letter is below:

"Partner with the Santa Clara County Office of Education to support comprehensive Environmental Literacy and Education across our county, including opportunities for students to get involved."

We support the Santa Clara County Office of Education in taking swift action to formalize the partnership with the Board of Supervisors in initiating these comprehensive environmental literacy and education programs.

Sincerely,



Dashiell Leeds, Conservation Assistant, Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
Resident of Unincorporated County D1

Cc: Esther Duong, Milpitas Resident
Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action, Student at UC Davis