

December 7,
2018

Dear John Muir
Families,

At Muir, we are in the beginning stages of bringing more STEAM education into our classrooms. According to the Institute for the Future, some of the top ten future work skills for 2020 are: Design Mindset, Social Intelligence, Trans-disciplinarity, and Novel and Adaptive Thinking

(http://www.iff.org/uploads/media/SR-1382A_UPRI_future_work_skills_sm.pdf). The implications for us as Muir educators are to increase the opportunities our students have to think critically, to think in an interdisciplinary manner, and to collaborate with others. Hence, STEAM! Please read below for an update on how our district, together with CEEF, is spearheading this initiative. *-Adrienne*

Update on CEEF and STEAM Based on community feedback through surveys, committee meetings, school site visits, and CUSD Board of Education conversations, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) has emerged as a focus for the District. With a focus on STEAM across the district, we hope to provide personalized learning experiences for all students through the power of learning by doing: making, tinkering, and engineering to develop skilled and resilient designers, creators and decision makers who will innovate and contribute to positive change.

As many of you may know, Cupertino Educational Endowment Foundation (CEEF) has been a significant partner and a critical fundraising arm of the District for 35 years. CEEF has granted more than \$17 million to support our schools and students. CEEF and CUSD are excited about our plans to continue raising funds for CUSD in support of teaching and learning, with a specific focus on this district-wide STEAM Initiative to benefit all 25 CUSD schools.

More information is forthcoming...stay tuned!

CUSD Student Design / Kindness Challenge! Capacity for empathy is like a muscle. The more you practice, the more compassion grows! We want to encourage our community to be more caring and focus on the common good by growing kindness. How might we encourage kindness throughout the day, week, year, on-going habit

etc.? Design a way to share kindness with others. You can share kindness in your home, classroom, school, local community, and/or the greater community. To learn more, [click here](#). Think Big, Think Kind!

NEW CuperDoodle After School Programming Available! Our district is partnering with Communication Academy to offer an after-school program at Dilworth, with transportation available for Muir students. The program will run Monday-Friday, 2:30-6:30pm, and will teach Public Speaking, Math Problem Solving, Chinese Heritage, and Debate and Critical Thinking, as well as incorporate fun indoor and outdoor games with friends. Flyers with more information will be sent home in an upcoming Thursday folder, or you can call 408-777-8876.

Parents Night Out TOMORROW! Our PTA hosts Parents Night Out this Friday evening, 6-9pm. Students will eat pizza, do crafts, and watch Incredibles 2 in our GLC while you enjoy an evening out. To purchase a last-minute ticket, complete and submit the yellow form that was sent home last week. Extra forms are still available in the office. Tickets are \$25. There are a few spots left!

Principal's Coffee Please stay a little bit after morning drop-off next Friday morning, December 14th, to enjoy coffee with fellow parents and listen to my presentation on some Muir assessment data, and to learn more about the CuperDoodle after-school program described above. We start a little after 8:30am in the GLC. I hope to see you there!