AWARD AND ENTRY MARKETING COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

20 24















Entrant Information

Santa Clara Unified School District 1889 Lawrence Road Santa Clara, CA 95051

31 Schools | TK-12+ Public School District 14,000 Students 2,500 Staff **Communication Team of Three**

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OUR VISION

Graduates of Santa Clara
Unified School District are
resilient, future-ready, lifelong
learners who think critically,
solve problems collaboratively,
and are prepared to thrive in a
global society.

OUR DISTRICT

Santa Clara Unified School District (SCUSD) serves approximately 14,000 TK-12 grade students at 31 schools, in addition to students in preschool and adult education. The district's 56-square-mile area is located in the heart of Silicon Valley, California, and is comprised of neighborhoods in the cities of Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, San Jose, and Cupertino. SCUSD prides itself on having 2,500 teachers, classified employees, and administrators who are dedicated, experienced professionals who care about each student's well-being and academic preparation.

Sarta Clara Unified School District



hope to create a community

where every individual is valued, supported, and empowered to achieve their infinite potential and contribute to a brighter future for all.

SCUSD



SYNOPSIS

Problem

Informal observations indicated that emerging issues and trends in the area and the world were negatively impacting culture and climate. As we dove into increasing focus on raising academic achievement, we wondered if our values of kindness and compassion were becoming lost. Our superintendent wanted to launch a kindness initiative to help raise the culture and morale. Formal research of our organization's climate and kindness science informed a kindness campaign.

Goal

After research, we identified we needed an audacious, but eventually attainable goal of reaching one million acts of kindness together as a community. Our initial goal was to reach at least 16,500 logged acts of kindness by November 30, 2023. With approximately 14,000 students and 2,500 staff, we felt that was attainable and would inspire the community to keep going. Our next goal is to hit 50,000 logged acts by June 30, 2024 and we will continue with annual goals.

We want to start a ripple effect of positivity and kindness as a central value that spreads exponentially and ultimately enhances the social and emotional well-being of our students, staff, community, and beyond.

SCUSD

RESEARCH

Many factors were taken into consideration when starting this campaign. The research phase involved getting an accurate understanding of our current school climate, gathering data about the importance and science of kindness, and identifying target audiences and their communication preferences.

On the following pages is a list of our research areas, broken down into formal and informal methods. We've also pulled a few of the most salient data sets from our research that informed the campaign.

Target Audience

Primary

Current students
Current staff

Secondary

Current families
Prospective students, families,
and staff
Broader community

Formal Research

Primary

- Quantitative: SCUSD CHKS data about climate and culture
- Quantitative and qualitative: kindness science research data
- Quantitative and qualitative: SCUSD communication audit

Secondary

Quantitative and qualitative: SCUSD speak up survey

Informal Research

Primary

- Qualitative: Audit how our schools current promote kindness
- Qualitative: Audit other kindness campaigns and interview their planning and implementation teams
- Qualitative: Observation, key informants, and focus groups with cabinet and students

Secondary

 Qualitative: Analyze local and national news stories and public relations association listservs for trends in climate and kindness campaigns

California Healthy Kids Survey

The California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) is an anonymous survey administered to students in grades 5, 7, 9, and 11. The survey focusses on assessing school climate, safety, and student wellness. CHKS offers schools, communities, and the state valuable insight into school climate, safety, student engagement, factors impacting academic performance, and overall student well-being. Each year, CHKS serves as a valuable tool for our district enabling us to gather comprehensive data on various aspects of student well-being and school climate, facilitating evidence-based decision-making and targeted interventions to support student success.

74% Caring Adults

of our **5th grade** students feel that adults at their school care about them and listen to what they say.

62% Caring

of our 7th grade students feel that adults at their school care about them and listen to what they say.

54% Caring Adults

of our **9th grade** students feel that adults at their school care about them and listen to what they say.

60% Caring

of our 11th grade students feel that adults at their school care about them and listen to what they say.

77% School Connectedness

of our **5th grade** students feel connected to their school and are happy to be there.

61% Sc

happy to be there.

of our **7th grade** students feel

COO/ School

connected to their school and are

of our **9th grade** students feel connected to their school and are happy to be there.

59% School Connectednes

of our **11th grade** students feel connected to their school and are happy to be there.

Social & Emotional Learning Supports

of our **5th grade** students agreed that the school helps them resolve conflicts and empathize with and care about others.

24% Social Em Distress

of our **7th grade** students agreed that they often feel sad, are easily irritated, and have a hard time feeling excited about anything

28% Social Emotional Distress

of our **9th grade** students agreed that they often feel sad, are easily irritated, and have a hard time feeling excited about anything

28% Social Emotional Distress

of our **11th grade** students agreed that they often feel sad, are easily irritated, and have a hard time feeling excited about anything

Caring Adults

Information gathered from the 2023-2024 survey informed us that almost three-quarters of our elementary school students feel that adults at their school care about them and listen to what they say. That also means that **one in four elementary students do not feel the adults at school care about them**. Any educator would agree that number should be one hundred percent. Even more concerning, this percentage dropped to 54 and 60 percent in high school students, meaning that **almost half of our high school students don't think the educators at their school care about them.**

School Connectedness

Additionally, about **one in four elementary students do not feel connected to school**. They report feeling unhappy to be at school, like they are not a part of the school, or that they are don't feel close to people at school. **By middle and high school, four out of every ten students feel disconnected**.

Social Emotional Distress

The increasing number of students self-reporting that they feel social emotional distress is concerning. In 7th grade, nearly **one in four middle school students reported feeling distressed** most or every day and, by 11th grade, even more students report feeling sad, easily irritated, and hard to feel excited about anything.



According the the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, "teachers using [kindness] curriculum report feeling **more connected to their students**, seeing more kindness in their classrooms, halls and on the playgrounds, and noticing their **students demonstrating more empathic, caring traits....** The teachers also noted improved trust, fewer referrals to the office, more respect between students, and a generally **more positive school and classroom culture.**"

A Choose Kindness Foundation pilot study that asked study participants to employ kind practices and mindfulness over 15 weeks, found that **stress levels for participants decreased and life satisfaction increased**. Indicating that performing kind acts leads to positive outcomes for the person doing the kind act, not just the person receiving the kind act.

About half of the participants in one study by <u>Christine Carter, UC Berkeley, Greater Good Science Center</u>, reported that they feel stronger and more energetic after helping others; many also **reported feeling calmer and less depressed**, with increased feelings of self-worth."

According to a <u>University of British Columbia Study</u>, a group of highly anxious individuals performed at least six acts of kindness a week. **After one month, there was a significant increase in positive moods and relationship satisfaction, and a decrease in social avoidance** in socially anxious individuals. This showcases that the impact of kind acts is almost immediate.

<u>Dr. Ritchie Davidson, University of Wisconsin</u> says that kindness is teachable. "It's kind of like weight training, we found that **people can actually build up their compassion 'muscle' and respond to others' suffering with care** and a desire to help."

Kindness is also contagious and can cause the ripple effect we're looking for in SCUSD. <u>Jamil Zaki</u>, <u>Assistant Professor of Psychology at Stanford University</u> found that the **positive effects of kindness are experienced in the brain of everyone who witnessed the act**, improving their mood and making them significantly more likely to "pay it forward." This means one good deed in a crowded area, or showcased to large groups, can create a domino effect and reach people exponentially.

Communication Preference Research

A 2018 formal communication audit conducted by an outside consulting firm provided communication preference data that informed the kindness campaign planning.

Students

Social Media Text Messages

Families

School Emails
Automated Calls
School Newsletter

Staff

District Emails
District Newsletter
School Emails

Spanish-Speaking

District Emails School Emails Automated Calls

Use More Often

Social Media Website App

PLANNING

Launching our campaign on World Kindness Day (Nocember 13), the month after Bullying Prevention Month (October), was a conscious effort to proactively support students' social-emotional well-being by modeling behaviors that encourage kindness and compassion towards others.

Before the official launch date on Kindness Day, November 13, 2023, we reached out to school sites to encourage them to get involved in the campaign and be ready to launch with us. Recognizing the significance of student input, at the Superintendent's Student Council meetings, we also encouraged our student leaders to disseminate information amongst their peers.

Participating in our goal to reach One Million Acts of Kindness allows students to take ownership of their school culture and actively contribute to positive change. By involving students in planning and implementing kindness initiatives, the campaign gives them a sense of agency and responsibility. This sense of empowerment can help shift negative attitudes and behaviors, creating champions of kindness and advocates for positive change.

We knew that for our campaign to be successful, we would need the whole community to be engaged. With this in mind, we outlined a dedicated website, drafted content, and brainstormed a variety of resources that we could make available so that everyone could help us spread the word about One Million Acts of Kindness.

We created a variety of possible One Million Acts of Kindness logos and polled staff to find out which design they preferred. Including the staff made them feel more invested in the project and therefore more likely to get involved.

IMPLEMENTATION

Using the most effective communication strategies and tools learned from our research, we implemented a variety of actions to encourage action from students, families, teachers, staff, and our community.

We created unique tracking codes for each piece of collateral so that we could track in real time to determine which advertising methods were the most effective. This allowed us to adjust the plan and implementation with strategies and tactics that were most effective.

We designed various pieces of collateral that could be shared in classrooms and at home to promote One Million Acts of Kindness:

Kind deeds checklist
Bookmarks
Flyers/posters
Website banners
Popup banner stands
Slide templates for presentations





EVALUATION

Our initial goal was to get people to actively log at least 16,500 acts of kindness by November 30, 2023. That goal was surpassed when we reached 20,000 logged acts! Our next goal is 50,000 by June 30, 2024 and we are well on our way there with 30,000 logged acts. We know there are many more than that out there. We constantly hear stories and see posts that have not been submitted through our tracking strategies. We are ok with that because we really just want to see the positive, contagious ripple, which has proven itself and is growing with each passing month.

Additionally, we track our data in real-time to continually adjust our plan and implementation. Data from bitly.com tells us that the most frequently clicked link to log kindness is the district's student and staff portal, Classlink, with 2,204 engagements. The least used QR code is embedded in the Introductory Video to our Community with only 3 clicks. YouTube data tells us that the video has been viewed 171 times so we learned that QR codes are not necessary in videos.

Engagements



2,204 Classlink

626 Kindness Homepage

501 Newsletter

94 Kindness Homepage

Kindness Checklist

View All Tracking Data

Social MEDIA School & Community Posts



Liked by khugheselem and 24 others
agnewelem It's wonderful to see all the acts of
Kindness from our #agnewgoldeneagles. Did yo

agnewelem it's wonderful to see all the acts of Kindness from our #agnewgoldeneagles. Did you know our district is in the middle of the One Million Acts of Kindness campaign? Visit @santaclarausd's webpage to submit your act of kindness. #scusdkind



O P

Liked by agnewelem, leannagoldenberg and 26 others montagueelem On Thursdays, Mrs. Goldenberg starts our morning announcements off with Thankful Thursday. Sometimes students volunteer to share in front of the whole school. Here we have a student that shared that he was thankful for Mrs. Goldenberg! It's so important to take a moment to stop and think about what we're all thankful for. What a wonderful act of kindness to show appreciation for our principal! #SCUSDProud #MarvelousMustangs #SCUSDkind







Liked by khugheselem, montagueelem and 32 others agnewelem As we all continue to recognize the many acts of kindness and experience gratitude for what we have in our lives, our #agnewgoldeneagles in Mrs. Gonzalez's class have ways light up the world with their KINDNESS

Remember to log acts of kindness for our district's One Million Acts of Kindess campaign. @santaclarausd #scusdkind



Liked by agnewelem, khugheselem and 15 others washingtonopenelementary Our fifth graders are showing off their kindness! They created posters, bookmarks and cards all about kindness! Let's go #SCUSDkind

View Engagement Data



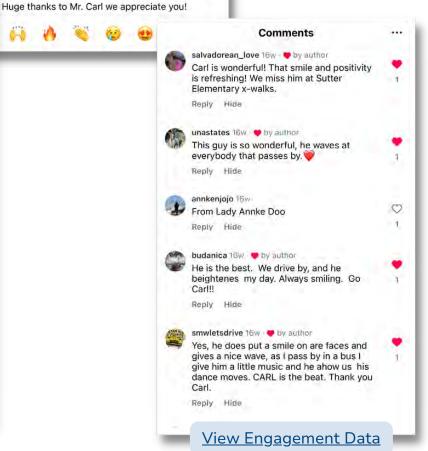
SOCIAL MEDIA: *District Posts*



December 4, 2023









Ossillation Liked by agnewelem and 124 others

OOA

santaclarausd Pomeroy student Haley arrived at school proudly showcasing her new haircut, having generously donated her long locks to create wigs for children undergoing cancer treatment. This rocket-powered act of kindness truly lights up our SCUSD community! Great job, Haley! #SCUSDkind







OD Santa Clara Police Department and 11 others

Boost post

See insights and ads

participated in an activity inspired by books they read about brave Ruby Bridges, who was the fi... See more







Diked by padron421 and others santaclarausd Superintendent Dr. Waddell has been out at school sites celebrating Read Across America Week and talking about kindness! Check out these photos and video from Bowers Elementary School. 👺 #SCUSDkind



"Be a rainbow in someone else's cloud" - Dr. Maya Angelou. Each quarter, Science Teachers MaryPat Slate and Brad Beadell decorate their scie... See more









santaclarausd It is Random Act of Kindness Day! There

Liked by agnewelem and 12 others

OOA

SCUSD

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

MARKETING MATERIALS

Logo Suite











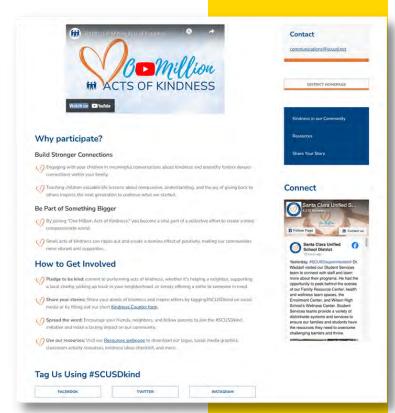




Website Section









"A first-grade student took it upon himself to start to clean up the trash around the outside of our school. He took his little 'picker upper' tool and a trash bag and started taking trash away."

- HEIDI, WASHINGTON OPEN



The Wilcox High School math department pooled unds to throw a delicious appreciation lunch for the itchen staff, custodians, campus supervisers, and mounds only at the Wilcox CHAMPS Care.



very incoming on new ways to the district ortice, Monical Audient receives a warm smille and wave from trisin-vixed Elementury's crossing guard, Crl. Always milling and friendly, Carl Enghlines the day of manyridividuals walking and driving down Cabrillo Avenue dowed by his kindness, Almica expressed her praiditude by idelivering hand warmers to Carl for the



Pomeroy student, Hatey arrived at school proudly showcasing her new haircut, having generously denated her long locks to create wigs for children

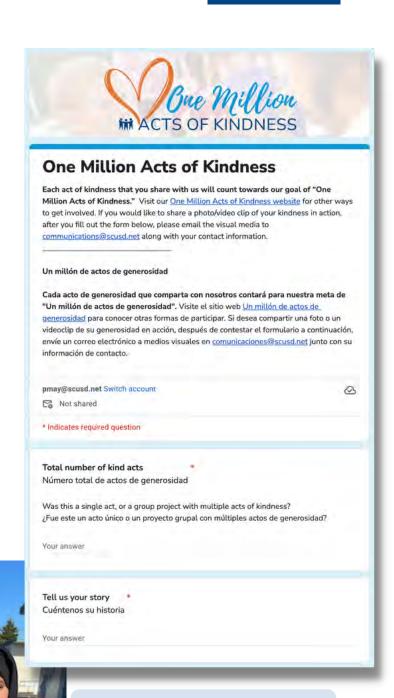
66

"I'm sending homemade Butternut squash soup and freshly baked bread to a teacher that is recovering from an operation."

- SONIA, PETERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL



Share Your Kindness Form

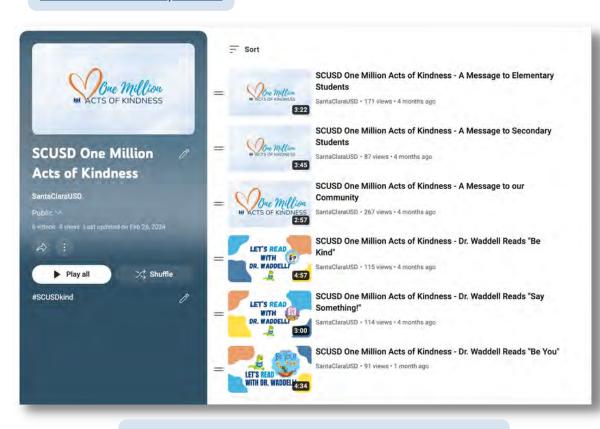


View Share Your Kindness Form

Introductory Video & Playlist



View Introductory Video



Campaign Toolkit

Kindness Campaign Toolkit

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Campaign Overview	Why Participate?	Kindness Checklists	Social Media Posts and Graphics
Teaching Kindness	Campaign Logos	Kindness Ideas Kindness Quotes	Parent and Community Email Templates
Get Involved	Photo Gallery	How Kind Are We?	Log an Act of Kindness
One Million Acts of Kindness Homepage	Classroom Resources and Videos	Share Stories of Kindness	Additional Resources

CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

Dear staff,

We are excited to announce that on the week of November 13, 2023, Santa Clara Unified School District will launch our "One Million Acts of Kindness" campaign across the district. By embracing kindness and promoting compassion throughout our district we hope to create a community where every individual is valued, supported, and empowered to achieve their full potential and contribute to a brighter future for all.

We need your help to spread one million acts of kindness throughout our district and beyond.

Below you will find some resources for your classrooms so that you can encourage your students and community to join in the fun! Each click to log your kindness will count towards our goal of "One Million Acts of Kindness."

Stay tuned for more resources as we develop this toolkit.

SCHOOL RESOURCES

Introduction Letter to Families

Subject Line: Show how much you care by participating in our "One Million Acts of Kindness" campaign.

Dear [enter school name] families,

Santa Clara Unified School District believes in the power of kindness to transform lives, create stronger communities, and build a brighter future for our children. That's why we're excited to invite our families and community to be part of our incredible journey towards spreading one million acts of kindness throughout our district and beyond.

Kindness Checklist & Poster/Flyer









Website and Newsletter Banners









Kindness Bookmarks

Bookmarks are placed in all school libraries and at our local city libraries.



Pop-up Banners



District Newsletter





DISTRICT UPDATE | NOVEMBER 13, 2023

Our bi-monthly newsletter,
District Update, is sent via
email, text, and app push to
approximately 27,500
families, staff, students, and
community members.





Happy World Kindness Day! I encourage us each to take a moment out today to talk about kindness with those a over a meal with family, a coworker, or a friend. A single act of kindness can be transformative. Collectively, we can schools into engaging, supportive, and compassionate school communities.

As we each commit acts of kindness, please click the link below to log your act of kindness and join us as we wal meter grow! I know that we are focused on many critical issues of student achievement and that holding space for one another is just as important — we get further faster when we go together.



CLICK TO LOG YOUR KINDNESS

Most importantly, we want to all focus a little bit more on how we treat one another. We are in this together and I in o limit to what we can accomplish when we link arms and walk together in service of our children and youth.

Dr. Waddell

View November District Update



DISTRICT UPDATE | JANUARY 16, 2024



students, staff, and families.

I'm excited to share exciting news about our school district's "One Million Acts of Kindness" campaign! In just a few short months, the response has been overwhelmingly positive, with over 25,000 acts of kindness already logged by our incredible community of

Hearing the stories of these acts is inspiring. From thoughtful gestures within classrooms to inspiring schoolwide initiatives, including staff writing encouraging, personalized notes to every student at the school, the acts of kindness in SCUSD are weaving a beautiful tapestry of connection and care across our district. The impact extends far beyond individual moments. I know that each and every one of these acts has the capacity to change the lives of children and youth and staff across our district. Fostering kindness not only enhances emotional well-being and academic performance but also strengthens a sense of belonging and community.

This is especially impactful for our children and youth. By prioritizing kindness and modeling its practice, we equip our young people with invaluable tools for navigating the world and becoming empathetic, responsible citizens.

Join us on this journey! Share your family's stories of kindness on social media with #SCUSDkind, log your acts (at the link below), and let's celebrate every ripple of compassion that makes its way across SCUSD and beyond.





Supt's Scoop

Supt's Scoop is a weekly email that Superintendent Dr. Gary Waddell sends out to staff to keep them informed about important districtwide initiatives.





Tappy World Kindness Week!

Today we celebrated World Kindness Day and the formal kick-off to our kindness campaign. Whether you are a teacher, support staff, or play another role in our district, Lencourage you to take a misment out during World Kindness Week to talk about kindness with those around you and have students and staff contribute to our bindness counter as we climb toward one million acts and see what the impact of that can be for our children and all of us, as well.



Our Communications Team reminds me that you can log multiple acts of kindness if it is a class, club, group, or school activity. To log multiple acts at once, fill out the kindness form that appears or the "thank you" page after you click the "log your kindness" button below.

Most importantly, we want to all focus a little bit more on how we treat one another. We are in this together and I know that there is no limit to what we can accomplish when we link arms and walk together.

Below you will find a few of our kindness resources that you might find useful

Classroom resources:

- VIDEO: Dr. Wadder 's Challenge to Elementary Students
- . VIDEO: Dr. Wadde 's Challenge to Middle and High Students
- VIDEO: Dr. Waddel Reads 'Be Kind'
- VIDEO: Dr. Waddes Reads "Say Something".
 POSTER: Daily and Weekly Kindness Checklist W-OR Code.

Work resources

- GIF Add to your email signature line.
- . POSTER: Daily and Weekly Kindness Checklist w/ QR Code

Imagine our gain toward our goal of one million if every staff and every classroom leads kindness discussions and activities each day this week in honor of World Kindness Week?

Let's see what we can accomplish together I wish you a wenderful week!

in appreciation

June

Dr. Gary Waddell Superintendent

Don't forget to catch kindness around you in action and post to social media using #SCUSDkind — we'd love to follow along and celebrate your teams and our schools!

There are some amazing resources out there, here are a few on our

- Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) at School Resources.
- RAK at Work Resources
- TeachKindness Resources (sign your school up to access leveled activities)

Mark these other dates of significance on your calendars as we continue to make progress to one million!

- Jan 22-26 The Great Kindness Challenge
- February Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) Month
- Feb 14-17 RAK Wink
- Feb 17 RAK Day

LOG YOUR KINDNESS

a Few More Favorite Photos













