



# Ask Dr. Rodriguez



## Ten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Edition #22 2024-25 School Year – Week of January 27, 2025

*Questions are quoted as I received them directly from our community.*

- 1. In your last message, you stated that you would provide more information on the upcoming Immigration Resource Fair. Can you provide it to us now?**

We are pleased to share details about the upcoming Health and Wellness Resource Fair. The event will take place on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at McKinley Elementary School from 3:30–5:30 PM. Organized in partnership with El Concilio and other local non-profits, the fair will offer essential resources and support to help families with immigration preparedness.

Parents attending the event will also have the opportunity to update their child's emergency contact records, adding trusted individuals to ensure their children's safety and well-being. Additionally, we encourage you to visit the SUSD District website for valuable resources from the Immigration Legal Resource Center (ILRC), including an Immigration Preparedness Toolkit and Know Your Rights guidelines.

- 2. How can I get ahold of the 'red cards' that you mentioned? I do not have access to red paper to print them myself.**

Our Reprographic Department has produced the immigration red cards for distribution. Each site has been equipped with 50 cards for easy access by parents and community members. Additionally, you can visit our Family Resource Center to pick up more cards as needed.

- 3. Good afternoon Dr. Rodriguez, I have heard a rumor circulating that the district is installing new clocks/PA systems in classrooms. The rumor is also saying that these clocks will contain audio/video surveillance systems in them as well to monitor what goes on inside each classroom. I certainly hope this is just a rumor. Will you please confirm?**

These speakers do not include cameras or video surveillance systems. They are equipped with auto-paging functionality, which enables two-way audio communication. To clarify, these speakers do not record or retain any audio information. When an auto-page is initiated from the front office, the intended classroom receives a notification on the IP speaker along with two audible beeps. This allows for communication between the front office and the classroom as needed.

**4. I saw a flyer for dental services and now I cannot find the information. Is there somewhere I can go for my ten-year-old daughter?**

The San Joaquin Dental Society is holding their “Give Kids a Smile” event on Saturday, February 8, 2025 from 8:00am-12:00 noon. The event will be located at St. Mary’s Community Services. It is first come, first serve so we encourage you to arrive at the beginning of the time to ensure your child receives the services. Below is the flyer noting the various services that will be provided.



**5. Does the district provide crisis training for employees and parents?**

The district currently provides crisis training only for full-time employees, which is called Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) training. The district offers the following CPI training options for employees:

Verbal Interventions (VI) with Disengagement Skills, prepares SUSD staff to identify, respond to, and prevent low-risk crisis behavior with non-restrictive intervention techniques and low-, medium-, and high-level disengagement skills. (In-person training; Classroom time: approximately 6-7 hrs).

Non-violent Crisis Interventions (NCI), prepares SUSD staff to prevent and de-escalate medium to high-risk behavior using both restrictive (Safety Interventions) and non-restrictive methods. NCI is a blended program: delivered in an online and in-person

format. (Online course, must be completed before in-person training, and is approximately 2.5hrs; Classroom time is approximately 6-7 hours).

NCI with Advanced Physical Skills, equips SUSD staff in high-risk roles with problem-solving and decision-making skills to recognize the various levels of risk behaviors and apply the most appropriate verbal and/or advanced safety intervention techniques to manage and support student's complex behaviors. This training is also a blended program with an online course (2.5hrs) and a classroom component (12 hrs - two-day training).

**6. I want my child to go to the Summer UOP program. When will we find out if she can go?**

Due to the excellent feedback received from last year, we expanded the number of students who have access to this opportunity. All high school students who have been preregistered, have been approved by their sites and have been notified by the University. We currently have 963 students preregistered and the 800 spots are filling quickly. If you have not received notification yet, please contact your school administration promptly to ensure your child's eligibility and secure their spot.

**7. I think students should make a school newspaper. Can we get one?**

SUSD is committed to expanding educational programs that align with students' passions, interests, and talents. Several of our comprehensive high schools already have student-run newspapers, including:

- **Chavez High School – The Titan Oracle** (Online, not printed)
- **Franklin High School – The Buzz** (Shared via QR code, not printed)
- **Stagg High School – Stagg Line** (Online, not printed)

We welcome the opportunity to explore expanding school newspapers to additional sites or even printing select editions of existing digital publications. If you're interested in starting or enhancing a school newspaper, please reach out to your site administrator or Leadership teacher to discuss possibilities.

**8. Why are students receiving a notice to check for updates on their Chromebooks?**

In preparation for the upcoming testing scheduled starting next month (ELPAC, NAEP, CASPP etc.), we are asking that school sites assist us by updating Chromebooks that cannot automatically be updated by the cloud. Between 1/22/2025-1/31/2025, our Technology & Innovation (T&I) Department will be pushing out a screen that students will be able to click on "Check for Updates." This will automatically update the Chromebook while the student will be able to continue with their schoolwork. The student does not have to perform a reset as we will be performing this remotely after school hours. If there are any issues or errors noticed after the upgrade, please report this to a Library Media Assist (LMA) or designated person at the school site for them to collect the Chromebooks and contact our T&I Department.

**9. I am a staff member and am having a really hard time. Where can I find mental health support?**

Through SUSD, you have access to a completely confidential and free to use service. Care Solace Mental Health Care Coordination Service is available for all members of our educational community including SUSD Students, Staff, and their Families. You will have a dedicated Care Companion work with you to find a provider matched to your needs and keep you updated. Care Solace finds available providers matched to specific needs and offers 24/7/365 support, including holidays and weekends, in over 200+ languages so you can reach out at your convenience. You will find additional information on our District website at the [following link](#).

**10. My son was invited to Saturday School. Why was that? Is it for everyone?**

As part of our Attendance Matters campaign, many of our school sites are offering one or two Saturday School sessions. Students who have had an absence this school year are invited to attend as an opportunity to recover lost learning and participate in enrichment activities. However, Saturday School is open to all students who wish to attend. Families can register through their child's school site.