



# Ask Dr. Rodriguez



## Ten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Edition #28 2023-24 School Year – Week of March 25, 2024 Questions are quoted as I received them directly from our community.

### 1. What is the link to the parent survey that you sent out?

The Panorama School Community Feedback surveys have been extended until April 1, 2024. The surveys are live and ready for your staff, families, and students to provide their input. You can use this survey link - <https://bit.ly/SUSDFamilies>.

### 2. I heard you talk about all of the new safety measures you are implementing. You were showing a picture of it. I wanted to look at it more. Where can I find that picture?

The District has begun its implementation of layered measures of safety aimed at safeguarding the well-being of all individuals within its campuses. You can find the infographic on all of the safety upgrades on my Superintendent’s website at <https://www.stocktonusd.net/Infographics>.

**SUSD Student and Staff Safety** March 2024

Ensuring the safety of students, staff and community is a fundamental priority at SUSD. The District will be implementing layered measures aimed at safeguarding the well-being of all individuals within its campuses. These include physical security enhancements, additional camera coverage, controlled points of entry, and strong emergency preparedness tools and procedures.

1. Perimeter Fencing	2. Access Control	3. Hall Pass Visitor Management	4. Camera System	5. CatapultK12 Emergency Communications	6. inMapz Emergency Routing	7. Say Something Anonymous Reporting
Perimeter fencing is continuously being assessed and improved throughout the District to enhance student and staff safety. <i>Ongoing</i>	Video intercoms provide two-way communications between visitors and staff before entry is granted. <i>Starts May 1, 2024 (20 week rollout)</i>	The Hall Pass Visitor Management system allows the District to check in visitors and conducts a registered sex offender check before entry. <i>Starts April 1, 2024</i>	The District is increasing the number of cameras at each school site, significantly improving the effectiveness of the District's security through increased coverage and quality. <i>Starts June 1, 2024</i>	The CatapultK12 app provides centralized emergency communications simultaneously informing staff and law enforcement, enabling schools to respond to any emergency while prioritizing student and guardian reunification. <i>Starts March 4, 2024</i>	inMapz mapping system coordinates mapping of schools and safe evacuation routes during an emergency for students, staff and first responders. <i>Starts March 27, 2024</i>	The Say Something app educates staff and students on how to recognize warning signs and threats affecting our school community and provide an easy anonymous way to report concerns. <i>Starts May 1, 2024</i>

**3. My 8<sup>th</sup> grade daughter received an invitation to the University of the Pacific Summer Residency Program. Have we missed the deadline to register? If so, what can I do?**

You are still able to register your daughter. The deadline is April 5, 2024 for students that were approved to register. Please note after April 5, 2024, we will contact our secondary waitlist and remove students that were previously approved but did not complete their registration. We have a long waitlist of students and we cannot prolong registration as the classes are filling quickly.

**4. Can we acknowledge Autism Acceptance Month in the district? Maybe you can even highlight our districts Autism program during a board meeting? Our special education department works hard.**

I am pleased to announce that we will be recognizing a resolution for Autism Acceptance Month at the April 2nd Board Meeting. Our staff will be holding various events throughout the month to value our students and staff.

**5. What is the District's salary schedule offer to STA?**

We opened negotiations with STA in December to negotiate the CALPERS HealthCare Impact Mitigation district proposal. The cost of medical benefits was due to increase for all employees who buy medical benefits. The district proposed to absorb the cost of the increases for all employees, plus offer to increase the coverage so that employees had the option to have healthcare at no cost to them. STA agreed with the district's proposal and with it came a \$5,000 retention bonus and a one-time 4% payment for the 2022-23 school year that had been previously offered. Employees are currently receiving these benefits/payments.

In the most recent session on March 26, 2024, the district countered [Article 18](#) - Wages, to include:

- **4% on-schedule** increase retroactive to July 1st, 2023 which would include an increase to retired consultants; the teacher hourly salary schedule; preschool teachers, long-term and daily substitutes, all stipends paid off the stipend base salary (extra duty, degrees, SPED, athletics, etc.); and extra pay for department chairpersons.
- **\$5,000 one-time lump sum payment** (in addition to the \$5,000 given in the CalPERS proposal)
- An added stipend for teachers that have the National Board Certification
- Increase to the Support Personnel ratio factor
- Increasing columns to the Longevity stipend for pre-school teachers
- Re-organization of the CTE teacher's salary schedule

For on-going information, I encourage you to review the [Labor Negotiations website](#).

**6. How does the District negotiate the Healthcare Cost Impact Mitigation and other agreements?**

The District and union teams meet to negotiate the terms of all agreement within the scope of bargaining. Both sides discuss related issues during these negotiations and present proposals and counterproposals. The District is currently in negotiations regarding the Healthcare Cost Impact Mitigation agreement with the three CSEA units,

and is in negotiations for salary and benefits with six bargaining units. The law requires that both sides engage in good-faith bargaining toward reaching a negotiated agreement.

**7. Why hasn't the District agreed to pay the retention bonus to some employees?**

We have settled with six of the nine employee unions on the Healthcare Cost Impact Mitigation agreement. Because the three CSEA units (318, 821 and 885) have not yet settled the Healthcare Cost Impact Mitigation proposal, the District is unable to pay the \$5,000 retention bonus. The District is legally prohibited from unilaterally paying the retention bonus without reaching tentative agreement with the union and ratification by the union and the Board. The District hopes to resolve the issue with the three units in the near future. The District is meeting again with CSEA 318 on April 3, 2024, and CSEA 821 on April 17, 2024 (the parties were to meet on April 4, but CSEA cancelled that previously scheduled date). CSEA 885 and the District are working to schedule a meeting in the first ten days of April.

**8. Hi, I would like to get information about the English as a Second Language course, timetables and prices, I appreciate your information.**

You can find all of the information on our English as a Second Language (ESL) courses on the [Adult Education website](#). Below is the information for your convenience.

English as a Second Language (ESL)

- Step 1: [Day and Class Registration](#)

Fill out the registration form and schedule the date for a placement test. A representative from Stockton School for Adults will contact you via the email address/phone number provided in your registration, to schedule your required placement test.

Step 2: PLACEMENT TEST - Take your placement test

Step 3: START DATE - Start classes

**9. Will seniors be able to participate in graduation if they are within 10 credits of graduating and then be able to attend summer school to earn the 10 credits?**

We will continue with what we have historically done and we allow students that are within 10 credits of meeting their graduation requirements, to sign a contract that states they will complete their requirements in the summer, and allow them to walk the stage during the graduation ceremony.

**10. I had a question on open enrollment. We do not live in the boundaries of the elementary school that my children attend. My children have been attending the school since kindergarten. I always apply with the open enrollment forms but two years in a row I've been told I don't have to continuously apply, but I do it just in case. Now it seems I've missed the deadline to apply which has always been in March but now ended in February. Will this affect my children attending the school they've come to love? Do we have to continuously apply for open enrollment even though my children have been attending a school since kindergarten? I have been**

**told I don't have to but I would like to clarify. Also, what can I do since I seemed to miss the deadline? Thank you for your time.**

You only need to apply once for the intradistrict transfer for your children. They will remain there until 8th grade graduation unless you select to move them.