

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Gail Pinsker 310.450.8338, ext. 70230 apinsker@smmusd.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 24, 2019

SMMUSD to Hold Malibu Meeting on Feb. 6, 2019 on Implementation of Sustainability Plan

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has rescheduled a meeting in Malibu to gather input on the implementation of the districtwide sustainability plan. The meeting is planned for Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2019, from 5-7 p.m. in the Malibu High School library, 30215 Morning View Dr. in Malibu. The meeting will include a summary presentation of them plan and time for public comment on its implementation.

The Plan for Districtwide Sustainability, which has been in development for a year, is a roadmap for uniting existing initiatives with future projects and incorporating sustainability into the curriculum for SMMUSD students. It also outlines the integration of sustainability into district operations, resource efficiency (energy, water, consumable materials like paper), waste management (such as reducing the use of plastics), transportation, food and nutrition and other programs.

The plan was developed with input from students, teachers, staff and the Board of Education. The Board of Education will approve the draft plan at a future school board meeting.

SMMUSD has been a leader in sustainability efforts, through installation of solar at many school sites and student education projects. Caroline Coster, the district's sustainability coordinator, says the detailed plan goes much further by making sustainability a part of the district's operational fabric.

"We've had a great start with very good programs," Coster said in November. "We are proud of how far this plan can take the district and look forward to hearing from parents and citizens regarding implementation at these meetings."

The presentation will be made by representatives from Cumming Corp., the district's sustainability consultant. One previous meeting was held in Santa Monica in November. The originally scheduled meeting for Malibu in November was postponed due to the Woolsey fire and postponed again in January due to inclement weather.

View the <u>SMMUSD Sustainability Plan</u>. As part of SMMUSD's sustainability commitment, a public energy-use dashboard is now online. The <u>SMMUSD Energy Dashboard</u> allows people to view power use across the district by site, including the percentage of energy coming from solar, and allowing comparison to previous years. There is also a link on the <u>www.smmusd.org</u> website.

#

Written by: Chris Clonts, Communications Specialist