



## *Press Release*

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### *Office of the Mayor*

**For Immediate Release:**

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## **Mayor Liccardo's SJ Learns After-School Initiative to Hold First Working Group Meeting on Feb. 23**

*SAN JOSE*—SJ Learns, the Mayor's after-school initiative, is holding its first working group meeting on Monday, February 23 to discuss options for expanding after-school programs for children in Kindergarten through grade 6. The meeting, which is open to the public, will take place from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in Room 118 of the San José City Hall Wing.

“Investing in our children is critical to the long-term economic vitality and safety of our community,” Mayor Liccardo said. “We can keep our young students safe from gangs and other negative influences and provide learning and enrichment opportunities that will lead to future success.”

The SJ Learns Working Group's members have backgrounds in education and youth development including school superintendents, school board members, as well as representatives from foundations, nonprofits, and universities. The working group will bring together experts from the community, education, philanthropy, and business to tackle these challenges in a spirit of collaboration. They will develop a roadmap that identifies best practices within after-school programs. Then identify potential private investors to leverage an initial City investment and expand the number of high-quality after-school programs for students in grades K-6 who are not currently receiving these services.

Co-chairs are Emmett Carson, CEO of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation; Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, a former member of the East Side Union High School District Board; and Matt Hammer, Executive Director and Co-Founder of Innovate Public Schools.

Working group members are:

- Leticia Alvarez, PACT
- Dr. Eric Andrew, Campbell Union School District
- Manny Barbara, Silicon Valley Education Foundation
- Dr. Hilaria Bauer, Alum Rock Union Elementary School District

- Thelma Boac, Berryessa Unified School District
- Marco Bravo, Ph.D., Santa Clara University School of Education & Counseling Psychology
- Elaine Curran, Leo M. Shortino Family Foundation
- Pamela Foley, San Jose Unified School District
- Kathy Gomez, Evergreen School District
- Carrie Greco, PACT
- Darcie Green, Santa Clara County Office of Education
- Van Le, Eastside Union High School District
- Dr. Virginia Lehmkuhl-Dakhwe, STEM Education Program
- Greg Lippman, Ace Charter Schools
- Dr. Meera Mani, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- Jose Manzo, Oak Grove School District
- Karen Martinez, Alum Rock Union Elementary School District
- Jeremy Nishihara, Oak Grove School District
- Dr. John Porter Jr., Franklin-McKinley School District
- Julie Reynolds-Grabbe, Moreland School District
- Don Rocha, San Jose City Councilmember
- Jason Willis, San Jose Unified School District

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