

## **San Joaquin County Office of Education**

James A. Mousalimas, County Superintendent of Schools

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To All SJCOE Staff:

Construction on the final and largest piece of a project to increase the energy-efficiency of the San Joaquin County Office of Education begins in March that will impact parking for the next several weeks.

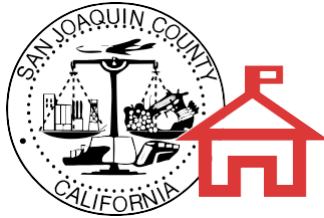
It will be followed by a much-needed project to replace pavement and upgrade other infrastructure across the entire SJCOE Campus that will prepare us for our future.

Soon, Johnson Controls Inc. will begin installing new solar panels in the parking lot and lawn north of the Nelson Education Center, creating an expanded parking lot shaded by the new solar arrays. It is the last phase to begin of a project that also includes replacing lighting fixtures and air-conditioning systems throughout the SJCOE Campus that will save more than \$500,000 a year in energy cost.

The improvements come with inconveniences, and we want to prepare you for them as they come.

Some elements and impacts of future constructions are as follows:

- Sixteen-foot-high solar arrays will be installed north of the Nelson Center and the Excel Academy Gym. Trees that would shade the new panels will be replaced by shorter, drought-resistant trees. The shaded parking area will include what is now the north lawn.
- The parking lots north of the Nelson Center and the Excel Gym will be unavailable for parking for 4-6 weeks beginning as early as the week of March 7.
- There will be some parking available in the lot south of the Nelson Center. To make room for employees with mobility limitations and members of the public coming to the SJCOE to do business, please park in the existing solar parking lot across from the Wentworth Education Center (WEC).



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- When possible during rainy periods, Operations staff will arrange for shuttle service from the WEC lot from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.
- The solar project will be followed by a summer project to replace pavement on Transworld Drive and outside all the buildings of the SJCOE Campus.
- At the same time, underground infrastructure crucial to the technological needs of the SJCOE will be replaced and upgraded.
- These initial projects will begin to transform a campus that has grown piece by piece over the decades into a more cohesive unit.
- The Public Information Office and Operations will work together to provide regular updates by email and maintain information about construction projects online here: <http://sjcoe.org/Construction/default.aspx#.VtTmgBgdJdY>

At the next all-staff meeting on March 2, staff will be available to answer your questions and provide more details about the future of the SJCOE Campus. You will also be able to fill out comment/question cards at the meeting. The meeting is at 2 p.m. in the Locke Auditorium at the Nelson Center.

The changes taking place are environmentally and financially responsible and will create a welcoming atmosphere for students, staff, and any member of the public we serve who comes to visit. We appreciate both your input and patience during construction.

Best Regards,

Ronald J. Estes  
Director of Operations