Socios for Success: Engaged Families Sharing Their Knowledge

Working in partnership with families at three schools in the Redwood City School District (including Hoover Community School, McKinley Institute of Technology, and Taft Community School) and the Redwood City Public Library, Redwood City 2020's Socios for Success program is building on the strengths of our community to boost family engagement to ensure children’s success. Families conduct outreach and community mobilization, learn from and teach others, create a welcoming environment, model partnership, lead and support projects, focus on positive outcomes, use their strengths and bring out strengths in others, and build a sense of community and social cohesion on school and library sites.

Recently, at Taft Community School and McKinley Institute of Technology, six Socios for Success parents/caregivers put their leadership skills in practice by sharing strategies to support reading and literacy at home during Coffee with the Principal meetings at each school site. Through their presentations and role plays, the volunteers modeled tangible techniques that could be easily replicated by any parent/caregiver (regardless of educational attainment or native language) and encouraged families to try them at home. For the majority of the volunteers, it was their first time doing any kind of presentation. The coaching and preparation provided by the Socios for Success program helped them feel prepared and confident to share their knowledge.

Successful Community Dialogue About Housing

On the evening of April 11, 2018 over 100 community members gathered at the
Redwood City Downtown Library as part of the Our Community: Housing and Our Future education and engagement effort. A collaboration of the City of Redwood City, Home for All, the Redwood City Library Foundation, and Redwood City 2020, the meeting provided a chance for diverse residents, property owners, developers, non-profits leaders and other members of the community to talk with each other at twelve discussion tables and share perspectives. Due to proactive outreach on the part of the co-host team and Casa Circulo Cultural, about half of the attendees indicated that they were newer to the conversation. Participants gave the meeting high marks. Over three quarters agreed that it was informative and that the meeting format worked well. Attendees especially liked the diversity in the room and at their table; that the gathering was a less formal way to share and learn; and the different perspectives shared on housing issues facing the community.

Our next Our Community: Housing and Our Future community conversation, held in partnership with the Housing and Human Concerns Committee, will take place on May 22, at the Veterans Memorial Senior Center. Doors open at 6:30pm and the conversation starts at 7pm.

For more details, go to www.redwoodcity.org/ourcommunityandhousing

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Missed a previous edition? Find it on our Resources page.

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