Closing the Gap Between Families' Needs and Resources: Community Resources Handbook

One key component of Redwood City 2020's Cradle-to-Career Pipeline of Success is enhancing the continuity of holistic services to better meet the physical, cognitive, psychological, and social needs of young people and their families in Redwood City and North Fair Oaks. Last year, in an effort to ensure families are informed and connected to services and resources they need, Redwood City 2020 collaborated with partners to create a locally-focused Community Resources Handbook.

This handbook informs families and practitioners about the availability of resources in four key areas: adult education, early childhood education/child care, food, and mental health. Paper copies of the handbooks are being distributed directly to parents and caregivers, as well as practitioners in the community. Through Redwood City 2020's family engagement initiative, several groups of parents/caregivers are receiving in-depth education on how to use the Community Resources Handbook to access services for their own families and training to support other parents/caregivers through family-to-family outreach about the handbooks.

Practitioners and families may view the Redwood City and North Fair Oaks Community Resources Handbook online through the Redwood City 2020 website.

Special thanks to all Redwood City 2020 partners who contributed to the creation of this new resource, especially the San Mateo County Human Services Agency for invaluable support in the production of the handbooks.

Students Assess Their Streets
In partnership with the REACH summer program at Fair Oaks Community School and the Police Activities League at Taft Community School, Redwood City 2020’s Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program helped educate students on what makes a street safe. Led by Redwood City 2020 SRTS Coordinator Matthew Reeves, students in both programs explored the streets around their school campuses to identify exactly what makes them safe and pleasant to walk along. Students then used a Safe Routes to School checklist to identify safety infrastructure present and missing on their neighborhood streets, and brainstormed solutions to problems present on the street. This type of education is important for students as it helps them better understand how city streets are designed, identify the safest local streets to walk on, as well as how streets can be improved.