



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Schools Are Getting SMART
City Green Team Members Seek to Educate Students About Climate Change

San Mateo, CA – The City of San Mateo Green Team will be discussing climate change with 4th and 5th graders at Meadow Heights Elementary School in San Mateo on Tuesday, June 9, beginning at 8:10 a.m. Staff will make 45-minute presentations to groups of about 35 students as part of their SMART campaign, which seeks to educate the San Mateo community about what behaviors can be changed to contribute to reducing local greenhouse gas emissions.

“We want to make the students aware of the seriousness of climate change but also let them know that there are things that they can do to help mitigate the effects,” stated Christina Gilmore, City of San Mateo Management Analyst.

Reaching out to local schools is an important part of the SMART program. Presenters from the city will provide students with quizzes and a SMART swag bag that will assist with learning about both the science of climate change and what actions they can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Students will have the tools to investigate the link between everyday actions, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.

“Our hope is that students will be excited about being a part of a movement that helps the environment and their city,” said Ms. Gilmore. “Discussions about climate change may sound scary at first, but it is possible to show that children can be a part of the solution and provide a sense of hope for the future.”

The topic of climate change provides a range of teaching and learning opportunities for schools, in areas like social studies, technology, the arts, health, culture and science.

Learn More about SMART

San Mateo’s SMART program is a year-long public outreach campaign designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the city by educating and informing the public about climate change and what they can do to reduce emissions. To measure your carbon footprint and find out additional information on what you can do to help reduce your greenhouse gas emissions, please visit our Web site www.cityofsanmateo.org/smart.