

For Immediate Release:

May 30, 2019

Contact:

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Mayor Sam Liccardo to Announce New SJ Learns Summer School Programming for K-3 San Jose Students

Event: Mayor Sam Liccardo will join the San Jose Public Library Foundation, Alaska Airlines, and leaders from the Alum Rock Union Elementary School District to announce an expansion of his signature after-school learning program [SJ Learns](#). Now in its fourth year, SJ Learns will use a donation from Alaska Airlines to expand the program to provide summer learning opportunities to 404 low-income K-3 students.

When: Friday, May 31, 10:30 a.m.

Where: [Cesar Chavez Elementary School](#), 2000 Kammerer Avenue, San Jose, CA

****Media can park in the reserved lot accessed from Kammerer Ave. along the curb closest to the school. All members of the media are required to check-in at the main office before proceeding to the classroom.****

Who: Mayor Sam Liccardo, City of San Jose
Jill Bourne, Director, San Jose Library
Annabel Chang, Vice President-Bay Area, Alaska Airlines
Jason Papier, President, San José Public Library Foundation
Parent/student who benefit from SJ Learns

Background: Launched in 2015, SJ Learns is an after-school learning program that offers K-3 students in some of San Jose's most vulnerable neighborhoods a supportive, safe place to spend their afternoons. By 2021, the program will have served nearly 3,500 students from 26 schools in low-income and underserved neighborhoods.

This year, the program will expand to offer summer school programming to 404 students in four schools across San Jose thanks to a \$300,000 donation from Alaska Airlines.

When SJ Learns was founded, less than 10% of San José elementary school children participated in state-funded after-school learning programs that enriched their education. The lack of public resources left a large number of

San Jose's neediest students without such learning opportunities because their families could not afford paid tutoring, sports, or enrichment programs.

With the help of school districts and other partners, SJ Learns seeks to reduce the achievement gap by increasing the number of TK-3rd-grade students from low-income neighborhoods who participate in high quality extended learning programs during the school year.

Visuals: B-roll of students participating in a reading program similar to SJ Learns
SJ Learns Factsheet

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