



New District & School Websites Overview

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Why a New Website?

- Outdated and lacks functionality
- Too difficult to navigate
- Cluttered with information
- Doesn't meet current accessibility standards
- Lacks robust storytelling elements

Timeline

2023-24 School Year

- SCUSD Communications staff met with vendors and reviewed proposals for districtwide website services.
- Surveyed families to understand their wants and needs from a new website.

August 8, 2024

- SCUSD Board of Education approved contract with FinalSite.

2024-25 School Year

- Communications team began planning the new layout and navigation. Meetings held with departments and schools to review their content for migration to new website platforms.

July/August 2025

- Tentative launch date for new SCUSD.edu and school websites.

Key Website Features & Improvements

- **Enhanced Photo & Video Capabilities** - All websites will feature robust support for high-quality photos and videos, enabling schools to effectively highlight their programs and engage audiences.
- **Responsive Design** - Websites will be fully responsive, providing an optimal experience across all devices.
- **Accessibility Standards** - All websites will be fully responsive and accessible meeting WCAG 2.2 Level AA guidelines. Built-in interface guardrails ensure staff maintain these accessibility standards when adding new content.
- **AI-Powered Translation** - Weglot Translation provides fast and accurate translations for every website, powered by AI automation.
- **Protected Employee Section** - A secure section will house internal communications and documents for staff use only.



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School Website Updates

- **Consistent Look and Feel:** The consistent look and feel across all district and school websites will make it easier for parents to find information.
- **School Branded Websites:** Each school will have a branded website that allows for local customization and identity.
- **Reduced Workload for Schools:** More content will be managed centrally by the district, reducing the workload for school sites and ensuring content stays current.
- **District News and Updates:** District news and updates will be shared directly on school websites.
- **Integrated Content:** Staff directories, calendars, and other key resources will be integrated into each site.
- **Direct Access to Important Information:** School menus, bell schedules, academic calendars, and parent/student handbooks will be accessible directly on the websites instead of only as downloadable files.
- **Social Media Integration:** Schools can embed social media feeds to enhance communication and engagement.

Content Standards & Accessibility Improvements

- **User-Friendly Design:** Staff optimized the website design and structure to ensure it is easy to use for our community.
- **Content Review and Compliance:** Collaborated with legal counsel to ensure website meets federal and state compliance requirements.
- **Keeping Content Current:** Content will be limited to the current school year and the two previous school years. Archives for earlier years will be maintained offline.
- **Improved Accessibility:** Whenever possible, content has been converted from downloadable files into on-page text to enhance accessibility, support translation, and improve compatibility with screen readers.
- **Accessibility Checks for Uploaded Files:** If a document must be uploaded as a file, it undergoes an accessibility check to ensure it meets compliance standards before being published.

Website Consolidation Features

- All district and school websites consolidated under the SCUSD.EDU domain
 - Reduced from 93 websites on different hosts down to 77 on one host
- Shared content from a single source ensures consistency on enrollment processes, outreach, and general messaging.
- Enhanced search capabilities on the websites make content easier for families to find
- Simplifies website compliance management



Next Steps



Website Build and Migration: We are currently working on building the new websites and migrating content.



Staff Training: Staff training will be conducted this summer and will continue throughout the school year.



Testing and Launch: All sites will be tested and launched before the start of the school year.



Q&A