



**SAN MATEO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT**  
400 County Center  
Redwood City, CA 94063

**February 23, 2026**

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**San Mateo County Students Participate in Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution**

**Redwood City, CA** – More than 200 students participated in Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution, an event hosted by the San Mateo County Office of Education and the San Mateo County Superior Court Community Outreach Committee. Students learned about Fred Korematsu’s legacy as a civil rights leader who challenged the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. His conviction was overturned in 1983, and California later established January 30 as Fred Korematsu Day.

“It is often said that those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it,” shared Justice Danny Chou. “This is why it’s so important for our children to learn about our government’s abhorrent treatment of Japanese Americans during World War II and Fred Korematsu’s inspiring fight against that injustice. It’s also why I’m so honored to part of this Korematsu Day event.”

Fifth-grade students from MP Brown in Jefferson Elementary School District and ninth through twelfth graders from El Camino High School, Carlmont High School, Half Moon Bay High School and Pescadero High School attended reenactments of Korematsu’s 1944 Supreme Court case at the Hall of Justice on January 30th and February 6th. Students also heard from Yoshiko Kanazawa, a formerly incarcerated Japanese American and Nanci Nishimura, daughter of formerly incarcerated Japanese Americans and toured county government offices.

The High School students met with judges and attorneys and attended a presentation by Judge Roberta Hayashi, followed by a Government Attorney Panel.

“I hope our Fred Korematsu events help to inspire students to always be critical of injustice in our world and to have the courage to stand up for what they believe is right,” said Judge Renée C. Reyna. “I believe these educational opportunities will help to create the next generation of advocates, teachers, lawyers, and judges. I am proud to be a part of Fred Korematsu Day and thankful to all our community outreach partners who give their time and effort to make these events successful.”

This is the third year the County Office of Education and Court Community Outreach Committee has partnered to host Korematsu Day events. Community partners included the Fred T. Korematsu Institute, Japanese American Association of the Greater Bay Area, several local law firms, and San Mateo County Supervisors Lisa Gauthier, Ray Mueller, and David Canepa. Lunch was provided by Suruki and Takahashi Markets.

### **About the San Mateo County Office of Education**

The [San Mateo County Office of Education](#) is committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of background, receives excellence and equity in education. The County Office of Education supports 84,000 students across 23 local school districts by providing services that can be done more efficiently and economically at the county level. These include instructional and technical support, instruction for students with significant disabilities and those in the juvenile court system, and development of the education workforce. A leader in environmental literacy, the County Office of Education delivers innovative, high-impact lessons that empower students to address real-world sustainability challenges. Through the Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities, which reflects a broad collaboration of community partners, the County Office of Education provides safe and supportive school services that benefit students, families, and the broader community.

### **About the San Mateo Superior Court Community Outreach Committee**

The [San Mateo County Superior Court's Community Outreach Committee](#) connects San Mateo County residents, organizations, and educational institutions with their local judicial system. It consists of judicial officers and representatives from the San Mateo County Office of Education, San Mateo County Attorney's Office, San Mateo County District Attorney's Office, San Mateo County Private Defender Program, San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, San Mateo County Bar Association, and various community organizations who collaborate on community events throughout the year.

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