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Dr. Faris Sabbah, Superintendent • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5600 • Fax (831) 466-5607 • [www.santacruzcoe.org](http://www.santacruzcoe.org)

June 1, 2022

Dear My Stuff Bags Team,

First and foremost, thank you for being willing to support our Students in Transition and FosterEd Program by supplying 70 My Stuff Bags to provide to our students and families in need.

I wanted to share that although we have only distributed 9 bags so far, the impact has been tremendous and heartwarming! For one single mom and her 7th-grade autistic son, we were able to provide a My Stuff Bag after they had been moved into one of our local housing shelters. Mother and son were thrilled to have received the bag and even sent over a cute picture of the son wearing the bag. His smile was big and contagious! He loved the stuffed animal inside as well as the other cool items.

All in all, My Stuff Bags has helped us better serve children by being able to provide a tangible, brand new bag with goodies and personalized items to children who have only been able to get used donations or handy downs in the past. It helps us be able to empower our children and see their faces light up when we realize that the duffle bag is uniquely for them. One father of a student living in a shelter even let me know that his son was going to Science Camp for the first time ever and that he was excited to repurpose his bag to be able to pack his clothes for the trip. Overall they were both impressed by the items in the bag and shared that during their move the student had lost many of his belongings and was grateful to have received brand new items just for him.

Sincerely,

*Erika Cortes*

Erika Cortes

Homeless Project Coordinator  
Santa Cruz County Office of Education  
(831) 466-5666