Seal San Francisco
School Based Dental Sealant Program
Seal San Francisco

History

• Department of Public Health, Dental Services began the school based sealant program in 1996 in 3 schools

• Annually serves 12-14 SFUSD elementary schools and one middle school

• In 2017/18 provided sealants to 800 students
Problem: Tooth Decay

- Most common chronic childhood disease
- 100% preventable
- Affects overall health and development
- More missed days of school, lower academic achievement
- High costs – hospital dentistry, ER visits, schools miss funding when children are absent, parents miss work to take child to the dentist
- Disparities between children of color and white children
Why and what are sealants?

The first permanent molar is the most frequently decayed tooth. It has many cracks and crevices for bacteria to hide.

Sealants are a resin which is painted on to the biting surfaces of teeth to seal out those bacteria.

It is cured with a light and becomes very hard.
Ideal time for sealants to be placed

On newly erupted molars before they have a opportunity to decay.

- Ages 6–8 years old for the first permanent molars
- Ages 9–12 years old for the second permanent molars
- Kids this age may not go to the dentist but they are in school
Current School-Based Sealant Program

Where we’re located

- Visitation Valley ES
- Hillcrest ES
- ER Taylor ES
- Cleveland ES
- J. Serra ES
- Monroe ES
- Moscone ES
- Mission Education Center
- Chinese Education Center
- Parker ES
- Chin ES
- Lau ES
- Spring Valley ES
- Willie Brown Middle School
Alignment with the SDDTAC Priority Strategies

• Funds for prevention services – expand school based sealant program

• Accessible and free – school based during normal school hours and no cost to the families

• Target schools in areas which have the highest caries prevalence, high FRLP participation, high percentage of low-income children of color: located in areas with high diet sensitive chronic diseases

• Collaborative efforts between organized dentistry, SFUSD and DPH

• Leadership development of Americorps members
Plans for the SDDT funds

Expand the sealant program from 12 to 24 elementary schools
- Caesar Chavez
- Sheridan
- Redding
- Guadalupe
- El Dorado
- Sanchez
- Harte
- Flynn
- Longfellow
- Marshall
- Rosa Parks
- Carver

Expand to middle schools
- Paul Revere (K-8)
- Bessie Carmichael (K-8)
- Buena Vista (K-8)