Teen Commission Meeting
February 11, 2026
Presentations

Item #1
Big Bunny 5K and Kids Fun Run and Spring Community Festivals Presentation

Parks and Recreation Department
Festivals and Special Events

February 11, 2026

Teen Commission

CUPERTINO

Agenda

- Review of Events and Festivals
- Upcoming Events and Festivals

Events and Festivals

- Events are coordinated and implemented directly by City staff.

- Festivals are organized by non-profit organizations but use city facilities and are supported by City staff for implementation.

Citywide Events

- Citywide Events are generally open to the public to participate either as a free or paid event. Paid events include:
  - Big Bunny
  - Campout
  - Monster Mash
  - Breakfast with Santa
  - Pooch Plunge
  - Signing Santa
  - Sweetheart Social

Citywide Events Continued

Parks and Recreation Free Events:

- 9 Summer Concerts and 4 Movies in August
- July 4
- Tree Lighting
- Earth Day

Other Free Events coordinated by Public Works

- Bike Fest

Program Level Events for Teens

Youth Activity Board (YAB) Teen Events

- Spelling Bee
- Pizza and Politics
- Teen Resource Fair
- Cupertino Café
- Movie Nights
- Kick off or end of year event
- Speaker Series

Program Level Events Continued

Examples of Other Program Level Events

- Hidden Treasures – Senior Center
- Movies – Senior Center
- Health Expo – Senior Center
- Birthday Bashes – Senior Center
- Disco at Dusk – Intergenerational
- Preschool Mother's Day Tea and Socials
- Golf Tourneys

Festivals

- Festival organizers apply in January for festivals in the following fiscal year.
  - Egg Hunt – Local Non-Profit
  - Holi – Chamber of Commerce
  - Cherry Blossom – Toyokawa Sister City
  - Kids N Fun – Taiwanese Cultural Sports Federation
  - Rotary Silicon Valley Fall Festival
  - India Heritage Festival – Bhubaneswar Sister City
  - Diwali Festival – Chamber of Commerce
  - Dilli Haat – Empower Uplift
  - Ikebana Show – Every other year

Use of Volunteers

- Recreation Event Volunteers (REV) and one-day teen volunteers are used in Parks and Recreation city-wide events and program level events.

Questions?

CUPERTINO

Teen Commission Meeting
February 11, 2026
Presentations

Item #2
Golf Events and Earth Day Festival Presentation

Parks and Recreation Department Golf Events and Earth Day Festival

February 11, 2026

Teen Commission

CUPERTINO

Agenda

- Upcoming Events at Blackberry Farm Golf Course
- Earth and Arbor Day Festival

Golf Events at Blackberry Farm Golf Course

- FootGolf Tournament (3+ years)
  - Saturday, May 2
  - 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

- Intergenerational Golf Tournament (5+ years)
  - Saturday, June 13
  - 10 a.m. to Noon

How can you get involved?

- Sharing outreach
  - School
  - Golf teams
  - Friends and family
- Register to participate
  - Reg4rec.org

Earth and Arbor Day Festival 2026

- Saturday, April 4
  - Cupertino Civic Center Plaza
  - 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Zero Waste Event
- Family-friendly
- FREE

How can you get involved?

- Event Emcee(s)
- Volunteer Day Of
- Share
  - Vendors – registration closes 3/6
  - Volunteer opportunities – meeting on 3/25
  - Event Info: cupertino.gov/earthday

Questions?

CUPERTINO

Teen Commission Meeting
February 11, 2026
Presentations

Item #3
SR2S Working Group

Cupertino Safe Routes to School

Birgit Werner
SR2S Program Coordinator

CUPERTINO

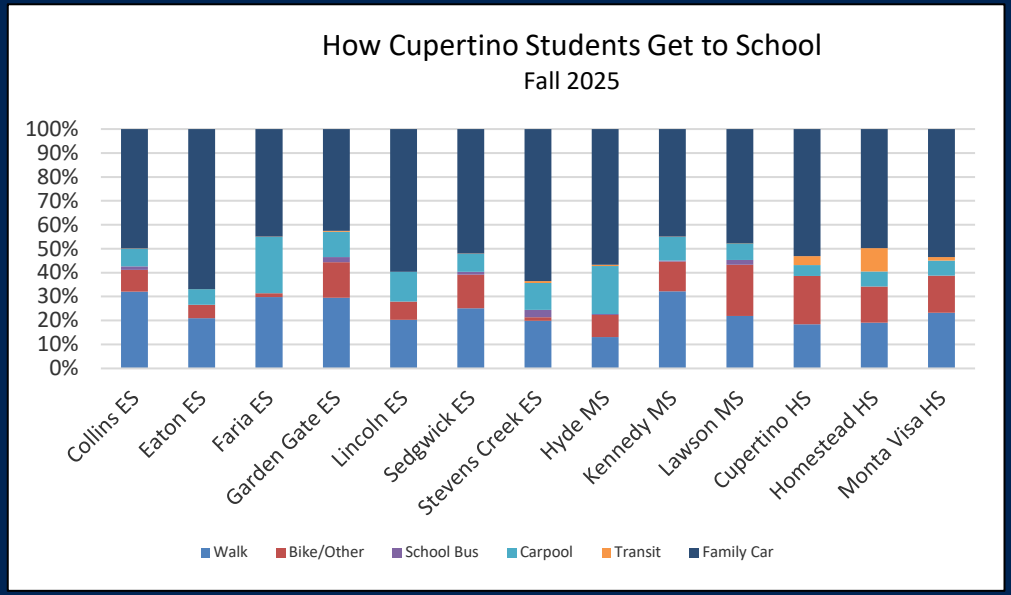
CUPERTINO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

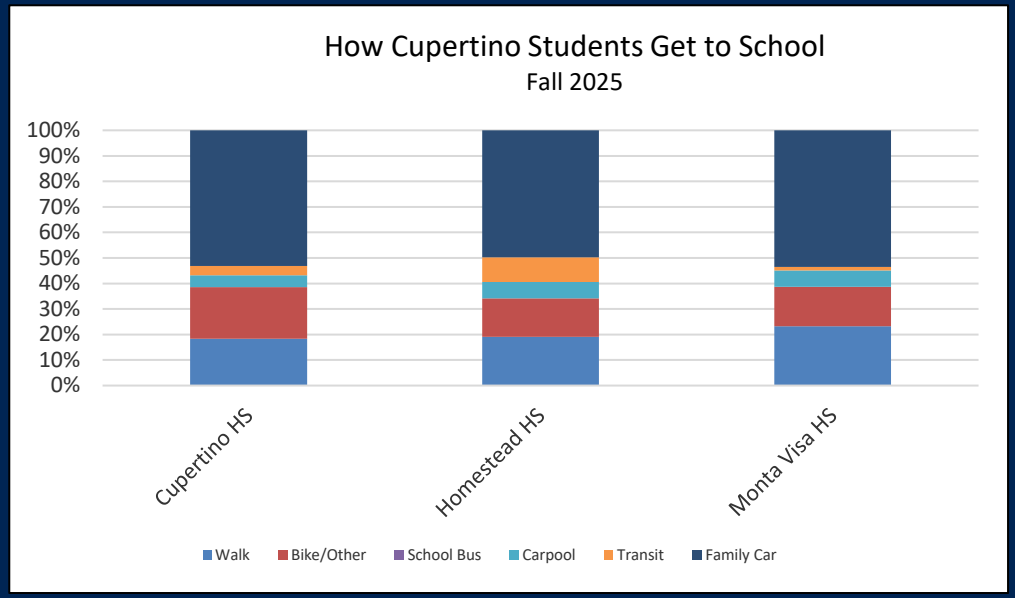
SR2S Mission: To create a safer environment for Cupertino students and families to travel to and from school actively

SR2S Framework:

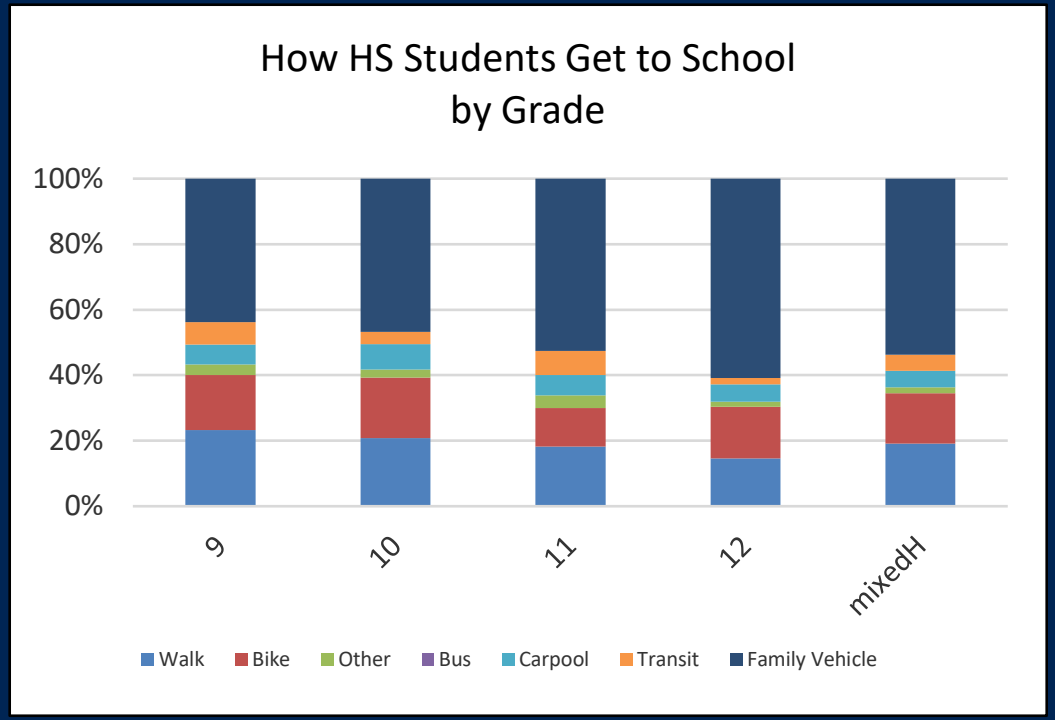
Engineering
Education
Encouragement
Engagement
Equity
Enforcement
Evaluation

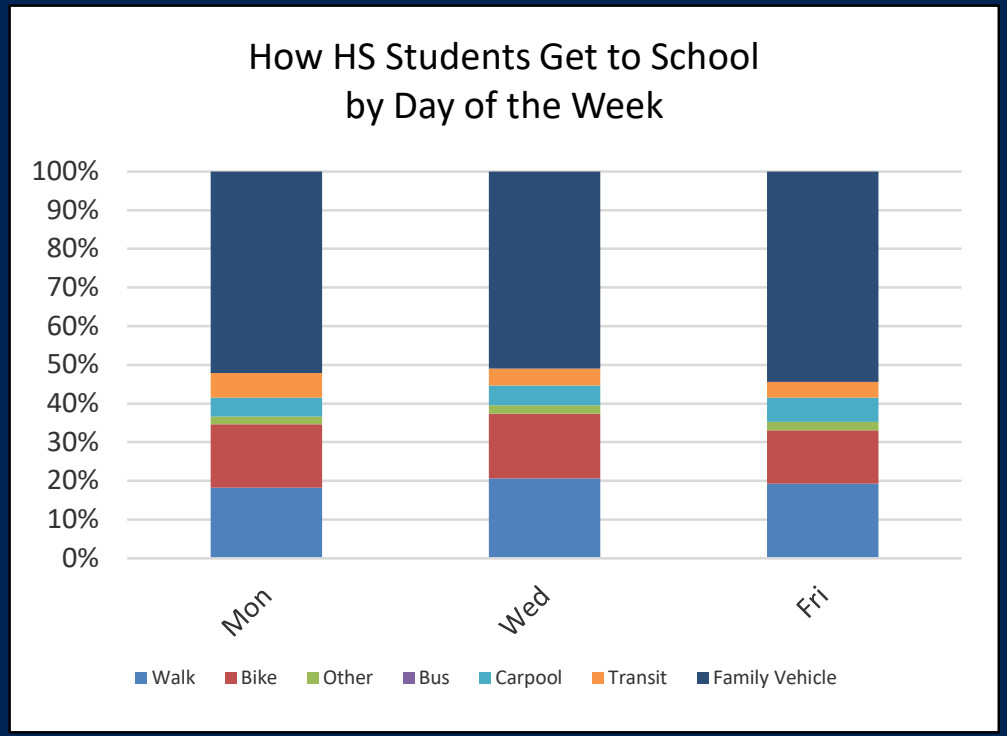
2025 Student Travel Tally

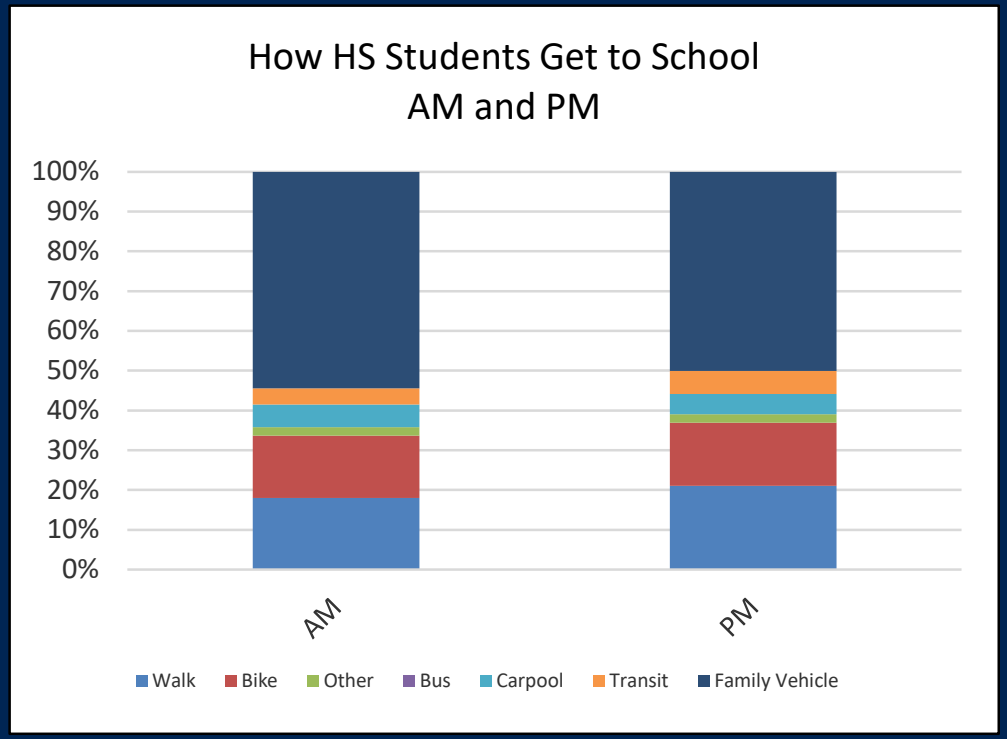




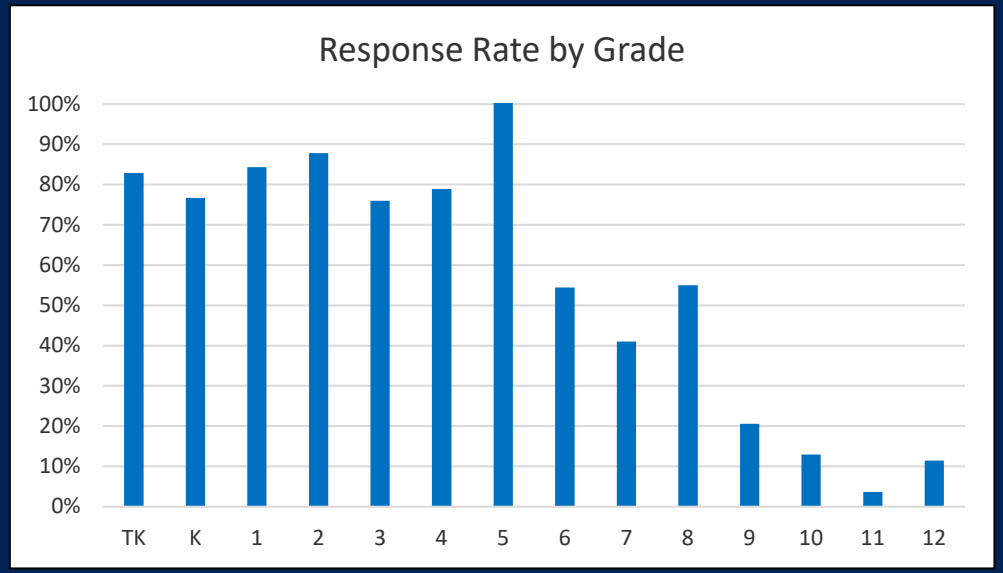
School Name	Walk	Bike/ Other	School Bus	Carpool	Transit	Family Car	Alt Travel
Cupertino HS	18%	20%	0%	5%	4%	53%	47%
Homestead HS	19%	15%	0%	6%	10%	50%	50%
Monta Visa HS	23%	16%	0%	6%	1%	53%	47%


How HS Students Get to School by Grade
100%
80%
60%
40%
20%
0%
9
10
11
12
mixedH
Walk
Bike
Other
Bus
Carpool
Transit
Family Vehicle


How HS Students Get to School
by Day of the Week
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
Mon
Wed
Fri
Walk
Bike
Other
Bus
Carpool
Transit
Family Vehicle


How HS Students Get to School
AM and PM
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
AM
PM
Walk
Bike
Other
Bus
Carpool
Transit
Family Vehicle

2025 Student Travel Tally



SR2S High School Representatives

Applications due February 23, 2026
cupertino.gov/saferoutes/hsrep

Thank you!

saferoutes@cupertino.gov

Teen Commission Meeting
February 11, 2026
Presentations

Item #4
Youth Led Organization, Cybersecurity and AI Club

YOUNG LEADERS in CYBERSECURITY & AI

YLCA CUPERTINO YOUTH-LED CYBER & AI SAFETY

EMPOWERING TEENS TO SECURE THE DIGITAL WORLD

YOUNG LEADERS in CYBERSECURITY & AI

WHAT IS YLCA?

YLCA is a global youth led initiative empowering the next generation of cybersecurity and AI leaders through hands-on workshops and mentorship from industry experts to build a safer, more responsible digital future.
Young Leaders in Cybersecurity & AI (YLCA) is founded by high-school innovator Arth Bhardwaj to train and empower teens in cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. We provide hands-on training, workshops, leadership opportunities and real-world projects that help young people make their schools and communities safer online.

MEET OUR FOUNDER

Securing digital trust in an era of evolving threats.

ARTH BHARDWAJ

FOUNDER

Arth Bhardwaj is a high-school junior at Saint Francis High School in Mountain View, California, and the founder of Young Leaders in Cybersecurity & AI (YLCA). He leads his school's Cybersecurity & AI Club and works as a student researcher with the University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign (UIUC).

YOUNG LEADERS in CYBERSECURITY & AI

MEET OUR
EXECUTIVE BOARD

HENRY WHITEHEAD
Bay Area Chapter Lead
Saint Francis High School, California

AVNI BHARDWAJ
Director of Communications
Challenger School, Sunnyvale, California

KRISHIV ARORA
Director of Operations
Delhi Public School Karnal, India

VEDIKA JAIN
Delhi Region Lead
GD Goenka Delhi, India

WHY WE FOUNDED

YLCA

Our Mission

To empower the next generation with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the digital world safely, ethically, and confidently. We believe every teen deserves access to quality cybersecurity and AI education, regardless of their background or location.

Global Reach

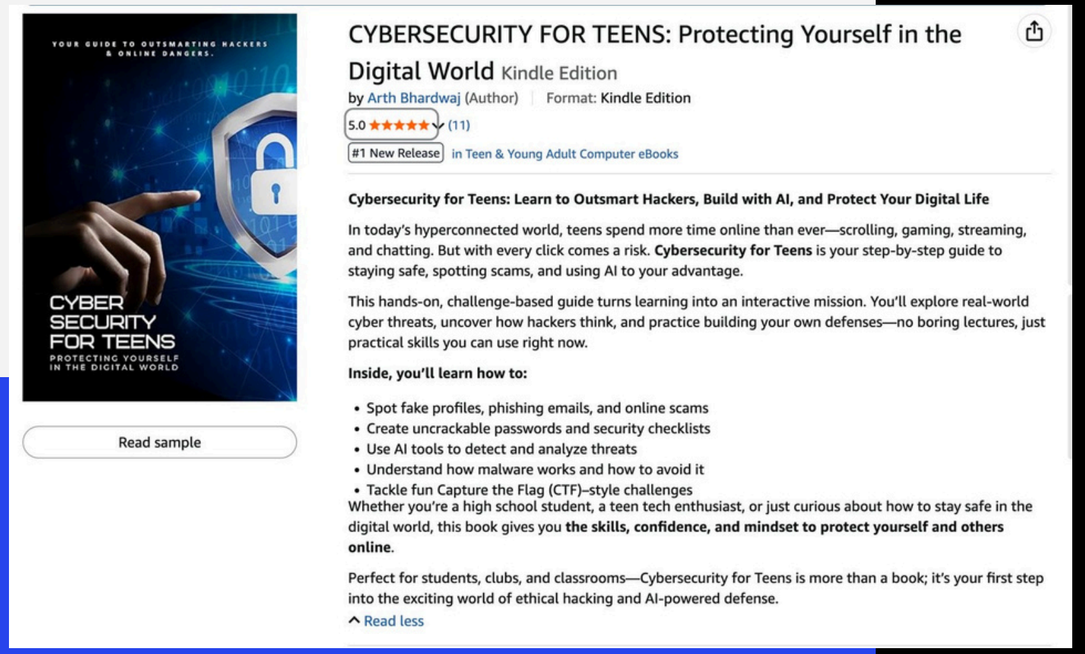
Our programs are designed to be accessible globally, with workshops delivered in schools and communities worldwide, all completely free of charge.

YOUNG LEADERS in CYBERSECURITY & AI

YLCA'S IMPACT ON CUPERTINO

- Goal 1: Student Safety - Hosted 6-8 Cupertino based cyber/AI sessions both online and in person for teens across schools
- Goal 2: Family Awareness - Planning to host Run parent/community sessions in H1 2026
- Goal 3: Youth leadership pipeline of Cupertino Ambassadors already onboarded
- Goal 4: Launch a guide/manual for local schools, community groups

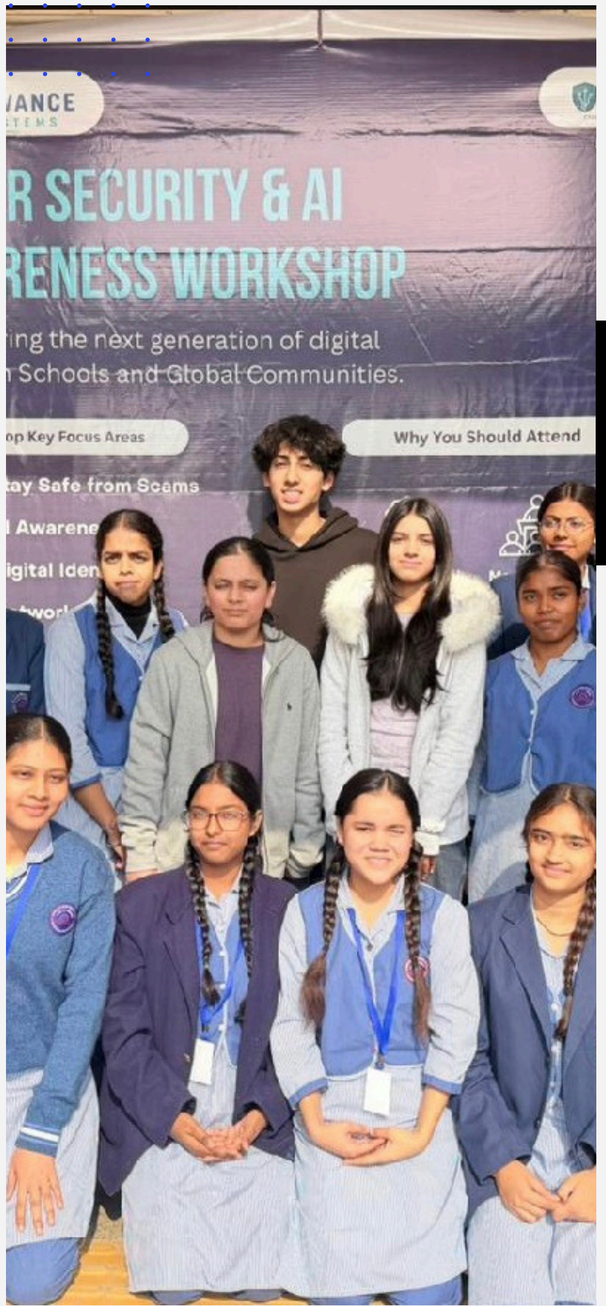
(Published book on Amazon August 2025)



YOUNG LEADERS in CYBERSECURITY & AI

YLCA'S GLOBAL IMPACT

YLCA’s impact reflects a growing movement of youth-led change in cybersecurity and AI awareness. By reaching 2700+ students, training 50+ ambassadors, building 3 corporate partnerships, and delivering 30+ workshops, YLCA is turning awareness into action. Through hands-on sessions, peer learning, and real-world digital safety education, the initiative empowers students to become responsible digital citizens and future cyber leaders. This impact is not just in numbers—it’s in the mindset shift toward a safer, smarter, and more secure digital generation.



2700+ STUDENTS REACHED GLOBALLY

50+ TRAINED AMBASSADORS

3 CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

30+ WORKSHOPS DELIVERED

YLCA.tech

@ylca_global

YOUNG LEADERS in CYBERSECURITY & AI

YLCA'S PROGRAMS

Youth Cyber & AI Workshops

✓ 45-60 minute sessions delivered in schools and community
✓Interactive demos
✓Real phishing emails, scams, passwords testing
✓AI ethics & safety
✓Delivered in schools globally

Global Community & Events

A 3-month leadership track where teens:
✓Learn cybersecurity basics
✓Learn intro AI & responsible usage
✓Practice teaching younger students
✓Lead 1–2 workshops at their school

Ambassador Leadership Program

- Monthly virtual meetups
- Project showcases
- Mentorship sessions with professionals

YOUNG LEADERS in CYBERSECURITY & AI

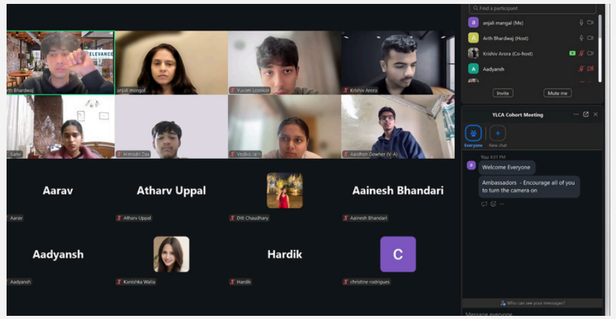
WHAT MAKES YLCA DIFFERENT?

- Trusted Youth-Led Cybersecurity/AI Platform, in operations FOUND BY YOUTH - FOR YOUTH.
- Community impact + technical learning together — outreach, education, and leadership in one model.
- Scalable chapter model that can be replicated across schools and communities by trained YLCA Ambassadors.
- Mentored by industry advisors and experts, connecting student energy with professional guidance.
- Action focused workshops with real world demos, hands on scenarios, and take home safety checklists.

YOUNG LEADERS in CYBERSECURITY & AI

YLCA'S GLOBAL

PRESENCE



Learn Together. Build Securely. Lead Confidently.

CUPERTINO, MOUNTAIN VIEW, SUNNYVALE CALIFORNIA

PUNJAB, HARYANA INDIA

DEHRADUN, INDIA

SHIMLA, INDIA

MUMBAI, INDIA

NEW DELHI, GURGAON, NOIDA - INDIA

BANGLORE, INDIA

EAST BAY, NEW JERSEY USA

And many more....

THANK YOU!

Teen Commission Meeting
February 11, 2026
Presentations

Item #6
Cybersecurity and AI Club for Teen Commission Highlight Program

Parks and Recreation Department Evaluation of Youth Led Organization for Highlight

February 11, 2026

Teen Commission

CUPERTINO

Agenda

- Review Youth Led Organization Application
- Consider Youth Led Organization for Highlight spot by Teen Commission

Reminder of the Questions to Answer

- What is your YLO's goals?
- What do you want to achieve?
- What are your plans to increase engagement in the future?
- What are the plans for the YLO after you graduate from high school?
- Do you have a plan for the longevity of the organization?
- Why do they want the YLO highlight?
- What is the organization's impact on Cupertino?
- What made them want to start the YLO?

Organization

- Young Leaders in Cybersecurity & AI
- Contact: Arth Bhadwaj
- https://ylca.tech

Organization Continued

- Young Leaders in Cybersecurity & AI (YLCA) is a youth-led initiative founded by Cupertino resident teen Arth Bhardwaj (Saint Francis High School) to make cybersecurity and responsible AI education practical, relatable, and accessible for students

How long has your organization been active?

10 Months

How Does the Organization Engage Participants?

- YLCA runs 100% free workshops (typically 60 minutes) in schools and community settings, covering phishing/scams and social engineering, passwords and 2FA, privacy settings, cyberbullying and digital reputation, digital footprints, and responsible AI topics like misinformation and deepfakes.

How Does the Organization Engage Participants?

- YLCA scales impact through a structured Ambassador Leadership Program, training students to lead workshops at their schools, launch cyber/AI clubs, and run awareness drives. YLCA now has ambassadors across the Bay Area, Central Valley, and a newly started New Jersey chapter, plus a strong partnership in India with 35+ student leaders.

What are the Plans for the After Graduation?

- YLCA has 50+ ambassadors and a structured leadership model, with ambassadors from 8th grade through 11th grade. As the primary organizers and senior members graduate, younger ambassadors will be trained and will continue filling leadership roles to keep programs running smoothly.

What are the Plans for the After Graduation?

- In addition, the founders and senior-most batch have a long-term commitment to remain involved after graduation to mentor new leaders and support YLCA's growth, since this mission is a passion project and aligns with our college academic goals.

What Makes the Organization Unique?

- YLCA is unique because it's built to scale through student leadership. We train teens to become ambassadors who can lead workshops and awareness drives in their own schools and communities. That's how we've grown into one connected organization across the Bay Area, Central Valley, New Jersey chapter, and India, while still using shared materials and consistent, age-appropriate content.

What Makes the Organization Unique?

- We also have real industry mentorship behind our student-led work: YLCA is supported through a CSR partnership with Cupertino-based cybersecurity company Elevance Systems and guided by professionals from Bay Area companies (including Microsoft and Visa). That mix—youth leadership + real-world mentorship + structured growth—is what makes YLCA different.

Why should Teen Commission Highlight the Organization?

- A Teen Commission highlight would make a real difference for YLCA. It would give this youth-led organization more visibility and credibility. Our goal is to bring more free workshops to Cupertino schools and across the Bay Area, and to host more community-based sessions for teens and parents so more families learn simple steps to stay safe online.

Why should Teen Commission Highlight the Organization?

- The topic is also very relevant to teens right now—scams/phishing, privacy on social media, cyberbullying, and misinformation affect students every day. Highlighting YLCA would spotlight Cupertino teens leading meaningful service, and it would help us expand our impact by reaching more students, growing local participation, and building safer digital habits in the community.

Questions?

CUPERTINO