



Santa Cruz County  
Office of Education

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Subject: Superintendent's Monthly Report to the Board  
December 16, 2010

The following matters and events have occurred since the report of November 18, 2010:

**Role of SCCOE – Emergency Preparedness Response**

The Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Department and the Santa Cruz City Police Department worked cooperatively with the County Office of Education and affected school districts when a jail inmate escaped during a medical visit to Dominican Hospital. Schools in Live Oak, Soquel, Santa Cruz City Schools, and our Alternative Education and Special Education Programs were in lockdown for a number of hours on November 29<sup>th</sup>. School personnel and law enforcement did an outstanding job. A debriefing was held with superintendents to discuss how protocols could be improved.

**Debra Clipper, Executive Director, Child and Family Services**

Maria Castro, Coordinator, Migrant Headstart Programs and I met with Debra Clipper from Stanislaus County Child and Family Services to discuss updating of the Memorandum of Understanding between our offices in regards to Migrant Headstart partnership, the monitoring of the PVUSD Migrant/Seasonal Head

**Carlos Palacios, City Manager, Watsonville**

I met with Carlos Palacios and Bradley Olin, Associate Planner, City of Watsonville, to discuss garnering educational support for proposed legislative action regarding the Manabe-Ow property in Watsonville, which if developed is projected to bring industry and jobs to the City of Watsonville over the next decade.

**Promise Neighborhood Project**

I met with Leslie Goodfriend, Senior Health Services Manager, County of Santa Cruz, and Leslie Connor, Policy Director, Health Improvement Partnership to discuss possible funding from the Packard Foundation for establishment of a Promise Neighborhood Project in Santa Cruz County. The Promise Neighborhood Program aims to alleviate poverty with a comprehensive place-based approach to support children from birth through college.

**Special Education and Alternative Education Site Visits**

Deputy Superintendent Bryan Wall and I visited several Special Education and Alternative Education sites including Chrysalis, Del Mar Elementary, and Natural Bridges Green Careers High School. We will continue to visit all sites prior to the end of the school year.

### **Superintendents Council**

Superintendents from the Santa Cruz school districts held their monthly meeting. Some of the topics discussed this month include lessons learned from the lockdown event, drop-out rates, flu materials, training opportunities, summer school, and state and federal funding, and the establishment of a totally virtual secondary charter school in Santa Cruz County.

### **BASTA Steering Committee**

Approximately 45 leaders of community and law enforcement met at the County Office of Education to discuss next steps in the implementation of BASTA – Broad-based Apprehension, Suspension, Treatment and Alternatives. A subcommittee will consider re-establishing a Criminal Justice Council.

### **CSBA –California School Boards Association Annual Conference**

I attended the annual conference for the California School Boards Association in San Francisco.

### **California County Superintendents Educational Services Association Board of Directors Meeting (CCSESA)**

I attended the Board of Directors meeting for CCSESA in Sacramento. Updates were given in the areas of state and federal legislation, activities of the California Department of Education, business partnerships, arts initiative, curriculum & instruction, technology, and student programs.

### **Managers Meeting**

The monthly managers' meeting was devoted to managers sharing the successes from this year. It was a very uplifting meeting that gave attendees a better perspective on the amazing things that are accomplished in this office in support of districts, their students and staff. Retirements of note are Nancy Serigstad, Director, Curriculum and Instruction, and David Doeltz, Programmer Analyst. Nancy and David were unable to attend today's meeting, but we thank them for their years of service and dedication to the Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

### **Special Education Coordinating Agency (SECA)**

The SECA Board met on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Topics discussed included budgets, non-severe preschool programs, and formation of an Advisory Operations Committee. The SECA Board also received the Implementation Plan of the Fiscal Crisis Management Team (FCMT) report recommendations. A subcommittee was developed to address the report recommendations and has established timelines to meet specific goals and objectives (see attached).

### **AB3632 Taskforce**

The AB3632 Taskforce met with representatives from districts and County Mental Health to continue to discuss solutions to the situation created when Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed funding for mental health services for special needs students.

### **Santa Cruz City Schools Swearing In Ceremony**

It was with great honor that I assisted Santa Cruz City Schools Board with the swearing in of their newly elected and continuing Board members Cynthia Hawthorne, Board President, Rachel Dewey Thorsett, Steve Trujillo, and Deborah Tracy-Proulx.

### **SPIN Special Parents Information Network**

SCCOE and SPIN co-sponsored a workshop entitled "Understanding Autism" on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the County Office of Education for parents of autistic children. Diagnosis and prognosis, specific treatments, trainings, and behavioral management strategies were discussed. Approximately 75 participants attended the Saturday meeting.

### **Cabrillo College Green Technology Center Groundbreaking Ceremony**

Cabrillo College has built a Green Technology Center in Watsonville and I was fortunate to be able to participate in the Groundbreaking Ceremony. We are excited that students graduating from our Natural Bridges Green Careers High School will have a local program to continue their education in search of a degree related to green technology.

### **Leadership Santa Cruz**

Cheryl Morris and I are assisting Dave Vincent with the Education Day for Leadership Santa Cruz, to take place on February 4<sup>th</sup>. The group will begin in our office with an overview and then go on site visits to include Harbor High, Watsonville Charter for the Arts, Natural Bridges Green Careers High, Pacific Collegiate School, and Aptos Junior High School. They will return for lunch and then go on to the UCSC and Cabrillo College.

### **Governor-elect Education Summit**

On December 14<sup>th</sup> I attended Governor-elect Brown's Education Summit at UCLA. The invitation only event included chancellors from University of California campuses and presidents from California State University campuses and K-12 education leaders from across the state. Governor-elect Brown asked Californians to partner in resolving the state's budget crisis, but superintendents and school leaders reminded him of the ways K-12 education has borne the brunt of education cuts.

### **Community Assessment Project (CAP)**

The CAP member organizations took on the critical task of determining goals for Santa Cruz County. As a member of the CAP Steering Committee representing education, one of the primary educational goals we established is to make sure students are prepared for the global economy. One way to achieve this goal is to bring innovative technology to the classroom and developing a broader knowledge of global cultures.

### **Shoreline School of Cosmetology Grand Opening**

I had the pleasure of attending the grand opening of the Shoreline School of Cosmetology's new facility. Shoreline Cosmetology is a division of Goodwill Workforce Development Services and a partner of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's Regional Occupational Programs. Their new facility is state of the art and trains students for cosmetology and esthetician careers.

### **The Roald F. Campbell Lifetime Achievement Award**

I attended a dinner recognizing Rodney Ogawa, Professor of Education at UCSC, who has been awarded this year's Roald F. Campbell Lifetime Achievement Award. This award was instituted by the University Council for Educational Administration in 1992 for the purpose of recognizing senior professors in the field of educational administration whose professional lives have been characterized by extraordinary commitment, excellence, leadership, productivity, generosity, and service.

### **CCSESA Charter School Task Force**

Today I participated in the CCSESA Charter School Task Force conference call. Topics discussed included oversight of independent charters, charters and satellite facilities, and proposed regulations for the State Board of Education for review.

### **Youth Resource Bank Cabaret Benefit**

On Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup> the Santa Cruz Youth Resource Bank will hold their annual Cabaret benefit at the Kuumbwa Jazz Center. Entertainers will include Santa Cruz favorite Extra Large and San Francisco Bay's Houston Jones, with special guest from Monterey, honeymoon. The doors open at 6:00 p.m. and tickets can be purchased at Gateway Books and Streetlight Records. Proceeds benefit at-risk youth.