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Subject: Superintendent's Monthly Report to the Board – March 17, 2016

The following matters and events have occurred since the Report of February 18, 2016:

### **ARCHES**

I met with Sharon Twitty, Executive Director, Arches on February 23, 2016. ARCHES fosters and supports ongoing regional collaboration aimed at improving student achievement and closing the achievement gap. By helping Pre K-12, higher education, businesses, unions, governments, and community organizations work together on projects and activities that enhance the quality of education, ARCHES helps to prepare California students for success in college, careers, and life. Ms. Twitty and ARCHES is interested in supporting and advancing our work with S4C.

### **UCSC EDUCATION CLASS**

I was asked to speak to a UCSC Education class by Dr. June Gordon Ph.D., on February 23, 2016. I spoke to the class about job opportunities, the teacher shortage, legal changes (ESSA and LCAP) and the challenges and rewards of the state subsidy for them to consider joining the fold in becoming and educator.

### **CAPITOLA-APTOS ROTARY**

I was asked to be a judge for a speech contest during the regular meeting of the Capitola-Aptos Rotary on February 25, 2016. The event was a great opportunity to help with the event and to see the talent that local schools are producing. Three students gave a 5-minute speech with the winner being from Delta School. County Supervisor Zach Friend and Santa Cruz Sheriff Jim Hart were also judges at the event.

### **JO ANN ALLEN RETIREMENT**

I attended the Jo Ann Allen retirement party on February 25, 2016 at Seascape to celebrate her culmination of 31 years in education.

### **CISC CONFERENCE**

I introduced Bernard Kinsey to a breakout session at the CISC Conference on February 25, 2016. Mr. Kinsey spoke on the Importance of African American History to a large group of educators and local executives from child and human welfare organizations at the Golden State Theatre in Monterey.

### **SISC HEALTH SCREENINGS**

I, along with approximately 54 employees and their dependents, took advantage of the SISC Health Screenings held here at the COE on February 26, 2016. The screenings included a blood pressure check, a cholesterol check and a body fat index check. Even if your numbers didn't come out the way you wanted, you got to leave with a gift card in hand!

### **SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM OF ART AND HISTORY**

The Kinsey Collection opened at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History on February 26, 2016. I introduced Mr. Bernard Kinsey and his family to the approximately 350 invited guests and dignitaries who were in attendance to view the opening night of the collection.

### **CAAASA CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT**

I attended and presented at the CAAASA California Statewide Professional Development Summit in Sacramento from March 1 – 4, 2016. The focus of the summit was "From Cradle to College and Career". I gave multiple presentations at the conference including: CAAASA Leadership Training Academy, Aspiring and New Superintendents Academy, Implications of California's New Accountability Plan and Pursuing LCAP for African American and other Under-represented Students.

### **FIRST FRIDAY TALK AT THE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND HISTORY**

I was asked by the Santa Cruz Museum of Science and History to be a speaker for their First Friday panel on March 4, 2016. The topic for the panel discussion was the Kinsey Collection and the impact on education. The other panelist at the talk was Simba Kenyatta, President of the Santa Cruz Chapter of the NAACP.

### **NEW TEACHER CENTER**

I met with Terri Kessler Thillet, Program Director for the New Teacher Center on March 7, 2016. Ms. Thillet came to the COE to brainstorm job possibilities given our Cotsen program sunsets in June. I recommended that Ms. Kessler Thillet meet with Cynthia Balthaser, Director, Santa Cruz/Silicon Valley New Teacher Project in an effort to continue the Cotsen work which focuses on coaching teachers.

### **EDUCATORS BREAKFAST WITH BERNARD KINSEY**

On March 8, 2016, the COE sponsored an Educators Breakfast with Bernard Kinsey at the Chaminade Resort & Spa. Approximately 40 educators from across the county attended the breakfast and heard an extensive presentation by Bernard Kinsey on the facts and untold stories of African American history in today's educational system.

## **WASC VISIT - ROP**

The ROP Department received their Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Mid-Cycle Visiting Committee Report on March 9, 2016. The Committee members found that the department has implemented and accomplished all of the Critical Areas for Follow Up from the March 2013 review. The members did recommend that the department expand its efforts to promote ROP's programs to potential students and supporters and to also continue the ongoing discussion with the high school districts about the value and structure of CTE pathways and how to best deliver the services. The exit report was "Outstanding".

## **SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR**

I attended the 2016 Santa Cruz County Science & Engineering Fair held on March 12, 2016 at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds. This year 381 students (297 projects) participated in the Fair from approximately 55 local public, private, charter and home schools (K-12). 40 projects were selected to go on to the California State Science Fair and the top overall project was selected to go to the International Science Fair in Phoenix, Arizona. The Science & Engineering Awards presentation will be held on March 22, 2016 at the Civic Auditorium.

## **SANTA CRUZ COUNTY DEMOCRATS DINNER**

I attended the Santa Cruz County Democrats Dinner on March 12, 2016 at the Dream Inn. The dinner honored the work of retiring Central Coast Congressman Sam Farr and to also recognize Jack Dilles as Democrat of the Year!

## **SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK**

The Second Harvest Food Bank held its Annual Awards Dinner on March 9, 2016. Because of the incredible generosity of our employees, the COE was recognized as reaching Silver Can Status; having contributed 5,788 meals to those in need.

## **INSIDE EDUCATION**

I welcomed the Inside Education group to the COE on March 16, 2016 for "Outside the Box". This month, the group visited two Alternative Education sites, Ponderosa High School and Career Training Center and Santa Cruz Community/Phoenix Academy School. The "Hot Topic for Lunch" was led by Bryan Wall along with a group of expert panelists who discussed gang prevention and safe schools.

## **NATIONAL AGRICULTURE DAY SPRING LUNCHEON**

On March 16, 2016, I attended the National Agriculture Day Spring Luncheon at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds. During the luncheon, the Al Smith Friend of Agriculture Award, the 2016 Jimmie Cox Memorial Scholarship and the Poster and Poetry Contest Winners were announced.

## **TOGETHER FOR KINDERGARTEN**

I attended the Together for Kindergarten Forum on March 16, 2016 at the New Brighton Middle School Auditorium. The Forum was an opportunity for early educators, kindergarten teachers and administrators to sit together and develop activities to support kindergarten readiness. The guest speaker was Gary Taubes, world-renowned science journalist and author of Why We Get Fat (Knopf 2010). Mr. Taubes spoke of the role nutrition plays in how children learn and in their overall health – It’s time to talk about “What’s in their lunchbox?”

## **ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (ACSA) RECOGNITION**

Congratulations to Mark Hodges, Senior Director, ROP for being recognized as the Career Technical Education Administrator of the Year for ACSA. Mark will be recognized on April 29, 2016 at the ACSA Region 10 Spring Fling.

### **Regular Monthly Meetings**

**Special Education Coordinating Agency Meeting**

**Migrant Head Start Videoconference**

**Criminal Justice Council**

**CCSESA Executive Board**

**CCSESA Agenda Committee**

**Manager’s Meeting**

**Agriculture Board Meeting**

**Children’s Network**

**S4C Steering Committee**

**CCSESA Board of Directors**

**CCSESA Accountability Task Force**