

Subject: Superintendent's Monthly Report to the Board – July 21, 2016

The following matters and events have occurred since the Report of June 16, 2016:

FOSTER ED LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

I attended and presented at the Foster Ed Leadership Team Meeting on June 17, 2016. I spoke about Foster Ed's partnering with local key agencies (Family and Children Services, Juvenile Dependency Court, CASA, Children's Mental Health and the Independent Living Program). Foster Ed will also be changing their case management/communication and teaming tool from Goalbook to Ed Team Connect. Ed Team Connect is a platform that the National Center for Youth Law created for all Foster Ed programs. It is a program that was built utilizing feedback from what worked well and did not work well with Goalbook.

ORAL HEALTH ACCESS STEERING COMMITTEE

On June 17, 2016, I attended my first meeting of the Oral Health Access Steering Committee. The purpose of this meeting was to become familiar with the needs assessment study that sparked the formation of the committee and to agree on a game plan and process for developing recommendations and action steps.

HANOVER RESEARCH

I spoke with Rachel Dotter, Senior Director, Hanover Research on June 20, 2016 concerning the COE's priorities regarding grant development and research to support English learners, foster youth, Early Childhood Education and the LCAP. On July 20, 2016, Mary Anne James and I attended a conference call with Ms. Dotter who showed us their Online Education Research Library.

SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM OF ART & HISTORY

I attended my first Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (MAH) Board meeting on June 20, 2016 and was welcomed as a new trustee. The mission of MAH is to bring people together around art and history through dynamic exhibitions, events, partnerships, and programs. During the meeting, we discussed expanding our community impact with the expansion in to Abbott Square and nominated new officers. The museum recently displayed The Kinsey Collection that was sponsored by the COE. I attended my second Board meeting on July 18, 2016. We were oriented on the goals for 2016-2017, received staff reports and received an update on the Abbott Square Project.

SAVE OUR SHORES

On June 21, 2016, I met with Katherine O’Dea, Executive Director, Save Our Shores and Margaret Collins, Board President. During our meeting, we explored the possibilities for Save Our Shores to continue their commitment to education and the possibility of my joining their Board of Directors.

SMART SOLUTIONS TO HOMELESSNESS COUNCIL MEETING

I was invited by Ted Altenberg to attend the Smart Solutions to Homelessness (SSH) Council Meeting on June 22, 2016. SSH is a diverse team of people from multiple sectors of the community (business, government, faith community, concerned citizens) who focus on homelessness in the community. SSH is looking to bring educators, schools and districts into the conversation in an effort to improve the lives of families and youth living “on the edge”.

CCSESA QUARTERLY MEETING

I attended the CCSESA Quarterly Meetings in Costa Mesa from June 26 – 28, 2016. Major topics discussed during the meetings were: 2016-17 CCSESA Budget; reports from the CCSESA Steering Committees; an update from the California Department of Education; California Children’s Education and Health Care Protection Act of 2016; Election of CCSESA President-Elect for 2017; LCAP and Accountability; Retirement Awards for Arturo Delgado (Los Angeles County) and Bill Cornelius (Sutter County); Bechtel Grant (Children’s Early Mathematics Learning); Charter Schools Panel Discussion and State Budget-Related items.

BRANDMAN UNIVERSITY

We are looking to partner with Brandman University for teachers and administrators who are trying to obtain their degree and certification. These teachers and administrators, who wish to obtain an advanced degree through Brandman would receive a 10% tuition reduction.

LEO’S HAVEN

I met with Patricia Potts, Founder of LEO’s HAVEN at Chanticleer Park on June 29, 2016. Leo’s Haven will be the first inclusive playground to be built in Santa Cruz County. LEO is an acronym for Lauren, Evelyn and Oliver Potts – three siblings whose greatest wish is to be able to play together at a playground. HAVEN describes the vision of the Live Oak community to provide children with a safe and accessible haven of play at Chanticleer Park. LEO’s HAVEN will provide children with the opportunity to experience and accept their peers with special needs as equals – teaching lessons of compassion, awareness and acceptance.

IDIG FOSSILS

On June 29, 2016, I attended the iDigFossils Professional Development conference for STEM Educators. The conference was held here at the COE from June 27 through July 1, 2016. The National Science Foundation has funded a project that involves 3D STEM scanning and the printing of fossils. This also includes teacher PD and the infusion of 3D learning carts into our school sites. Most of the schools and teachers selected for iDigFossils are from Santa Cruz (with the remainder from Florida).

CAAASA LEADERSHIP RETREAT

I attended and presented at the CAAASA Leadership Retreat held in Sacramento on July 1, 2016. A few of the topics discussed during the retreat were Strategic Planning, African American Leadership Academy, Professional Development Summit and Parent Engagement.

LENARD HOWARD RETIREMENT LUNCHEON

I attended the retirement luncheon for Lenard Howard held here at the COE on July 6, 2016. Lenard worked at the COE for 35 years in the Maintenance & Operations Department.

NEW SUPERINTENDENTS

On July 7, 2016, I met with Tanya Krause and Scott Turnbull who are the newest District Superintendents in the county. Tanya has taken over for Penny Weaver as the Superintendent of the Scotts Valley Unified School District and Scott has taken over for Henry Castaniada as the Superintendent of the Soquel Union Elementary School District. On July 20, 2016, Scott and I met with Capitola Police Chief Rudy Escalante and Capitola City Manager Jamie Goldstein in order for them to meet each other and discuss any ongoing issues.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT KICK-OFF MEETING

I attended the Business Department's kick-off meeting held on July 7, 2016 at Seacliff State Beach in Aptos. While the event is titled "Kick-off" it is actually a time for the Business Department to celebrate the culmination of another successful year.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT (CTEIG)

I attended a Career Technical Education labor market research meeting on July 12, 2016 here at the COE. The CTEIG requires labor market research to ensure selected pathways and courses "reflect regional or local labor market demands and focuses on current or emerging high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand occupations."

SENATOR BILL MONNING

California State Senator Bill Monning came to the COE on July 13, 2016 to hold his annual K-12 Education Focus Group Meeting. I, along with many district superintendents and board members attended this very informational meeting with Senator Monning who gave us an update on upcoming legislative initiatives being introduced in Sacramento along with the outlook of 19 ballot measures to be voted upon in this November's election.

LET'S TALK SCHOOL DISCIPLINE!

I spoke with ShaKenya Edison, K-12 Administrator/Consultant with Edison Educational Consulting. Let's Talk School Discipline! is a set of three workshops sponsored by Edison that discusses laws, policies, practices and state and national trends that govern K-12 discipline. They also discuss best practices in alternatives to exclusionary discipline through developmental assets.

HISTORY-SOCIAL SCIENCE FRAMEWORK FOR CALIFORNIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

On July 21, 2016, I met with Dr. Rob Darrow who is the Director of Research for the Safe Schools Project of Santa Cruz County. The focus of our meeting was the recent State Board of Education approval of the History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools. According to State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson, “this will improve the teaching and learning of history and social science. It will give our students access to the latest historical research and help them learn about the diversity of our state and the contributions of people and groups who may not have received the appropriate recognition in the past.”

Regular Monthly Meetings

Special Education Coordinating Agency Meeting
Meeting Migrant Head Start Videoconference
Criminal Justice Council
CCSESA Executive Board
CCSESA Agenda Committee
Force Manager’s Meeting

Agriculture Board
Children’s Network
S4C Steering Committee
CCSESA Board of Directors
CCSESA Accountability Task