

Subject: Superintendent's Monthly Report to the Board – October 19, 2017

The following matters and events have occurred since the Report of September 21, 2017:

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY THREAT ASSESSMENT MEETING

A countywide threat assessment meeting was held on September 22, 2017 with district superintendents and law enforcement officials in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to address the threat assessment findings in the recent Santa Cruz County Grand Jury Report.

AZTECAS GOLDEN GOALS COMMUNITY CELEBRATION & AUCTION

On September 22, 2017, I attended an event hosted by the Aztecas Youth Soccer Academy and the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County. The Aztecas Youth Soccer Academy invited the public to enjoy great music, local food and beverages to celebrate the Aztecas' inspiring successes and dreams for their 3rd annual Golden Goals Celebration & Auction. The Aztecas' Academy uses soccer to reclaim the lives of at-risk Latino youth who struggle with gangs, violence and poverty in Santa Cruz County and the Pajaro Valley.

SUPERINTENDENTS COUNCIL MEETING

This month's Superintendents Council meeting was held at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (MAH) on October 12, 2017. The purpose of having the meeting at the MAH was to give the superintendents the opportunity to visit the Lost Childhood Exhibit about transition-age foster youth across California and their stories of loss and resilience.

EQUITY INSTITUTE

I attended the Equity Institute seminar held here at the COE on October 13, 2017. Renowned author, researcher, professor and speaker Dr. Jeff Duncan Andrade was the keynote speaker for the event. During the seminar we talked about the importance of relationships and interactions not only between staff members but also between administrators and staff, administrators and students, staff and students, students and students and schools and parents/community.

MARHALL TUCK

Marshall Tuck, candidate for California State Superintendent of Public Instruction, reached out to me to discuss his philosophy and plan during a phone conversation on October 11, 2017. Mr. Tuck was most recently an Educator-in-Residence at the New Teacher Center (NTC), a nonprofit organization that works with school districts to help develop and retain effective teachers and principals.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING

On October 16, 2017, I attended the Criminal Justice Council Committee Meeting regarding race, equity and inclusion. The Committee would like to hold a conference in the spring of 2018 to educate and have a community dialog on these issues and on criminal justice reforms.

FAIR VOTE CALIFORNIA

I met with Colleen Hilker and Pedro Hernandez of Fair Vote California on October 17, 2017. Fair Vote California supports ranked choice voting which began in San Francisco in 2004 followed by Oakland, Berkeley and San Leandro in 2010. Ranked voting allows the voters to rank the candidates as their 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice etc. with the candidate with the majority of first-choice rankings win just as in any other election. This process is viewed as promoting fairness, fostering civil elections, eliminating “vote-splitting” and reducing voting costs as there are no primary or runoff elections.

CALIFORNIA COLLABORATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE (CCEE) ADVISORY COUNCIL

I was recently asked by Dr. Carl Cohn, Executive Director, CCEE, and by Christine Frazier, Chairperson for the 2017/2018 CCEE Advisory Council to serve as an Ex Officio member on a new CCEE Advisory Council. The Council will provide advice and counsel on issues brought to the Council by the Executive Director and/or Advisory Council members related to the work being conducted by the CCEE. The Council will consist of 11 county office superintendents, eleven school district superintendents and one charter school representative. The Marin County Superintendent will also serve as an Ex-Officio member on the council.

SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

On October 18, 2017, I was asked by the Santa Cruz City School District to swear in Cindy Hall Ranii as their new Trustee to the Board replacing Alisun Thompson. Ms. Ranii retired in 2006 as Superintendent of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District after a 25 year career including time as a teacher and principal.

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
Adult Education Block Grant