

Subject: Superintendent's Monthly Report to the Board – November 16, 2017

The following matters and events have occurred since the Report of October 19, 2017:

CCSESA OCTOBER QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

I attended the CCSESA October Quarterly Membership Meeting in Squaw Valley from October 22 - 24, 2017. During the meeting we discussed teacher recruitment and retention; completed an interactive survey of county superintendents regarding LCFF/LCAP; heard presentations by Tony Thurmond and Marshall Tuck, both candidates for the California State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 2018; and discussed the role of county superintendents and CCSESA in addressing climate of racism and bigotry discussion.

THE FELLOWSHIP FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

I participated in a conference call on October 25, 2017 with Emily Davis, Director of Educator Engagement with the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) and Dwight Bonds, Executive Director, California Association of African American Superintendents and Administrators (CAAASA). The purpose of the call was for Mr. Bonds and I to present the work that CAAASA is completing in the venue of social justice in California.

STEM OUTREACH

On October 26, 2017, Nehal Pfeiffer, Teacher, Science and Engineering Fair, and I met with three powerful community business members to discuss the COE's effort to ensure that all 40,000 students of Santa Cruz County have access to a rigorous STEM Program and how their companies can help us close the opportunity gap that currently exists in our county. We met with Keith Severson from Granite Rock, Karl Rice from the Santa Cruz Seaside Company and Emmett Linder from Driscoll Strawberry Associates, Inc. We also met with Joe Burton from Plantronics and Jon Sisk from Lighthouse Bank on November 15, 2017.

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES (WASC) VISIT

On November 2, 2017, I chaired a WASC Substantive Change Visit for the Monterey County Office of Education Alternative Programs in Salinas and Soledad to review site changes and updates since the previous WASC visit.

JUDGE MORSE RETIREMENT

I attended the retirement celebration for Santa Cruz Superior Court Judge, Heather Morse on November 2, 2017. Judge Morse was Santa Cruz County's longest-serving judge. Judge Morse was appointed to the bench in July 1989 by Governor George Deukmejian.

CIVICS SUMMIT

I attended the first Santa Cruz County Civic Summit on November 3, 2017 at Cabrillo College. Hundreds of high school students converged on Cabrillo College to hear from dozens of local leaders led by Santa Cruz County Supervisor Zach Friend who was the Master of Ceremonies. Student from across the county learned from local leaders about what they do, why it matters and how they go where they are today. They were also able to get direct answers to their own questions about political issues and the political process. Students also participated in a mock election put together the county clerk using actual voting machines and were able to fill out pre-registrations to smooth the process for when they turn 18.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY COUNSELOR SUMMIT

I attended the Santa Cruz County College Commitment (S4C) first annual Counselor Summit on November 6, 2017. The Summit brought local counselors together with the shared goal of increasing student access and success in post-secondary education. Trish Hatch from Hatching Results provided the keynote address and the closing session.

MANAGER'S MEETING

This month's Manager's Meeting was held on November 8, 2017 at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History (MAH). We held the meeting at the MAH in order for the managers to be able to view the Lost Childhoods: Voices of Santa Cruz County Foster Youth Exhibit. The exhibit showcases the stories, struggles, and triumphs of youth who are aging out of foster care. The exhibit also contains the personal belongings of foster youth, stunning photography, and four different art installations foster youth created.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP MEETING

On November 8, 2017, I attended the Santa Cruz County Community Corrections Partnership Meeting. The highlight of the meeting was the Santa Cruz County Blueprint for Shared Safety. The Blueprint for Shared Safety is a new framework for local jurisdictions to re-envision approaches to community safety centered around five guiding principles: shifting to a public health frame; community well-being is central to safety; crime survivors at the center; breaking the cycle of harm; and making the system work.

COE ALL

We held a COE All meeting on November 8, 2017 here in the Tech Center. We acknowledged all of our new employees, gave awards to our outstanding employees, and heard a wonderful presentation on Special Education by Dr. Deven Wood.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COUNCIL

We held the most recent Superintendent's Council Meeting on November 9, 2017 here at the COE. The highlight of the meeting was for the Superintendents to hear a presentation by the Silicon Valley Regional Data Trust (SVRDT) Team of Dr. Rod Ogawa and Marcy Lauck. SVRDT believes that both personalizing learning and improving services to children of poverty can be informed by the mining and analysis of large-scale data, shared across agencies throughout the region. Analyzing data from public agencies improves the effectiveness of services and allocation of resources for individual agencies. It also enhances coordination of services across agencies.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL (CJC) MEETING

I attended the Criminal Justice Council Meeting on November 9, 2017. We heard individual reports from all the major players on the Council as well a presentation by the Youth Violence Prevention Task Force on its successes and challenges over the past two years.

TONY HILL MEMORIAL AWARD 10th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

I attended the Tony Hill Memorial Award 10th Anniversary Celebration on November 7, 2017. I along with the selection committee and other recipients of the award (Luis Alejo, Ryan Coonerty, Reverend Deborah Johnson, Deutron Kebebew, Gina Castaneda, Jacob Martinez and Doron Comerchero) joined in a conversation celebrating the anniversary and the call to be inspired, to network and to take action.

COMMUNITY RADIO

I attended a Community Antenna Raising to start a new community radio station (90.7 FM) on November 12, 2017. This independent community radio station will broadcast news and interviews based on journalistic ethics and standards, truthfulness, accuracy, objectivity, impartiality, fairness and public accountability. Programs will be engaging, high-quality and original, focusing on telling the stories of life here on the central coast.

DIGITAL NEST

On November 12, 2017, I attended Digital Nest's 3rd birthday with a public celebration that included tours of the NEST's Watsonville center, exhibits of youth work, food, giveaways and more. Digital NEST is a local nonprofit providing free technology access and training to youth and young adults in Watsonville and Salinas.

PACIFIC COLLEGIATE SCHOOL (PCS) PARENTS

I, along with Mary Anne James, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services, met with a small group of parents from PCS regarding their concerns about equity issues at the school.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education in partnership with Landed, Inc. held a press conference on November 16, 2017 at Santa Cruz High School to launch a new program to provide down payment assistance to support Santa Cruz County public school teachers and staff with the purchase of a home. The program provides half of the down payment on a home, up to \$120,000.00 per family, in exchange for a portion of the appreciation or depreciation in the value of the home when the home is sold. The goal is that any gains from this assistance will be re-invested to support an ever-growing number of educators in the county. Landed's down payment support will be available to all teachers, administrators, and staff who have worked for a public school or district in the county for at least two years. In preparation for the press conference, Ian Magruder, Director of Partnerships and I were on public radio station KSCO (1080 AM) to promote the partnership and answer questions about the housing program.

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