

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
December 16, 2010  
Approved Minutes**

**1.0 ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Roll Call

President Hinde called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Board Present

Jack Dilles  
Aaron Hinde  
Arnold Levine  
Gina Locatelli  
Vic Marani  
Dana Sales  
George Bud Winslow  
Michael C. Watkins, Secretary

Staff Present

Mary Hart  
Cindy O'Conner  
Theresa Rouse  
Bryan Wall  
Brunella Deeds  
Janna Lambert, Counsel

**2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent Watkins led recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Marani motioned to move item 13.2 Discussion:  
Consideration of Continued Participation in the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association to follow Agenda Item 12.3 in order to discuss Board participation in the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association before considering adoption of their Bylaws. It was M.S.C. (Sales/Levine) to approve the agenda as amended.

Ayes: Unanimous  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

Action #815

**4.0 REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Remarks from the Audience

Rachel Dewey Thorsett, Santa Cruz City Schools Board member, stated that there has been a certain amount of talk about the Santa Cruz County Office of Education (SCCOE) becoming more interested in charter schools. Ms. Thorsett stated that charter schools are a means and not an end to address particular needs or problems. She encouraged open discussions at the Superintendent level and Board and public level to determine what needs new charter schools would address before moving forward.

Ms. Thorsett also stated that there is a certain tension with SCCOE having general oversight over education in the county with districts having the responsibility for educating every child who walks through their doors. She expressed concern that SCCOE may believe certain programs look interesting without bearing responsibility to admit all students. Ms. Thorsett stated that while specialized education would benefit some students, it may weaken other programs. She cautioned that SCCOE has a responsibility to the overall good of students in the county and not just students who

attend SCCOE programs. Finally, Ms. Thorsett reminded the Board that school choice is an empty promise unless the choice is a strong neighborhood school, and she stated districts were working hard in that area and hoped the Board would support those efforts.

Judy McGooden, Soquel Union Elementary School District Board Member, addressed the Conflict of Interest Policy. Ms. McGooden stated that she hoped that when this policy was discussed that issues beyond financial, such as morals and ethics would be addressed. Ms. McGooden noted a potential Board retreat planned, and encouraged the Board to discuss this issue at that time.

Judy McGooden, speaking on behalf of the Soquel Union Elementary School District, stated that between April and June the Soquel Union Elementary School District has cash flow problems. She noted that SCCOE has a respectable reserve fund and proposed the Board consider exploring bridge loans to districts during this critical April through June timeframe, as districts are unable to obtain other loans during this period. Ms. McGooden stated this would be of great benefit to districts in need.

**5.0 ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE**

Oaths of Office

The Honorable Paul Marigonda administered the Oath of Office to elected trustees Aaron Hinde and Gina Locatelli, as well as to Jack Dilles, appointed in lieu of election, for the term December 2010 to December 2014.

Judge Marigonda also administered the Oath of Office to Michael C. Watkins, Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools, appointed in lieu of election, for the term January, 2011 to January 2015.

**RECESS: RECEPTION**

Recess: Reception

President Hinde called for a 15 minute recess for employees and Guests to meet and celebrate with trustees and the Superintendent.

President Hinde reconvened the meeting.

**6.0 REGULAR OPEN SESSION**

**7.0 ANNUAL ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD**

Annual Organization  
Of the Board

**7.1 Nominations for President of the Board**

Nominations for  
President of the Board

Trustee Sales nominated Trustee  
Vic Marani for president of the Board.

There were no further nominations or discussion.

**7.2 Election of Board President**

Election of Board  
President

It was M.S.C. (Dilles/Locatelli) to elect Trustee  
Trustee Marani to serve as Board president.

Ayes: Unanimous  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

Action#816

- 7.3 Nominations for Vice President of the Board**  
Trustee Dilles nominated Trustee Levine  
Levine for vice president of the Board.
- Nomination for Vice  
President of the Board
- There were no further nominations nor discussion.
- 7.4 Election of Board Vice President**  
It was M.S.C. (Sales/Levine) to elect Trustee  
Levine to serve as Board vice president.
- Election of Board  
Vice President
- Ayes: Unanimous  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None
- Action#817
- 7.5 Appointment of Chairperson, County Committee on  
School District Organization**  
It was M.S.C. (Sales/Marani) to appoint Trustee Aaron Hinde  
as Chairperson of the County Committee on School District  
Organization.
- Appointment of  
Chairperson, County  
Committee on School  
District Organization
- Ayes: Unanimous  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None
- 7.6 Establishment of Regular Meetings of the Board**  
President Marani opened the matter for discussion. Trustee  
Sales stated he preferred the meetings continue to be held  
the third Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Trustee  
Hinde stated that he has had input that meetings be  
held later in the day. Trustee Winslow concurred with  
Trustee Sales.
- Establishment of  
Regular Meetings  
of the Board
- After some discussion, it was M.S.C. (Winslow/Sales)  
that the regular meetings of the County Board of  
Education be scheduled for 2011 at 2:00 p.m. on the  
third Thursday of each month, with the exception of  
the September meeting which is mandated to be  
conducted following school hours.
- Action#818
- Ayes: Unanimous  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None
- 7.7 Seating of New Officers of the Board of Trustees**  
President Marani and Vice President Levine assumed  
their offices.
- Seating of Officers
- 7.8 Appointment to Board Committees**  
Trustee Marani queried the Board as to individual  
interest in Board ad hoc committees.
- Appointment to Board  
Committees
- 7.8.1 Board Policy Advisory Committee**  
Trustee's Dilles, Levine and Winslow expressed  
interest in participating on the Policy Advisory committee.

**7.8.2 Board Budget Committee**

Trustees' Dilles and Sales expressed interest in participating on the Budget committee.

**7.8.3 Charter Schools Liaison Committee**

Trustees' Levine, Locatelli, and Winslow expressed interest in participating on the Charter Schools committee.

**7.8.4 Superintendent and Board Liaison Committee**

Superintendent Watkins stated that he wished to form this committee in an effort to keep the Board informed in a timely manner. As the Board president, vice president, and past president, respectively, Trustees' Marani, Levine, and Hinde expressed interest in participating on the Superintendent and Board committee.

**7.8.5 Board Agenda Committee**

President Marani and Vice President Levine agreed to participate on the Board Agenda committee.

**7.8.6 Community Outreach and Legislative Committee**

President Marani suggested removing community outreach as part of this committee. He proposed that each trustee could find an area of interest to be involved in. President Marani and Trustees' Sales and Winslow expressed interest in participating on the Legislative committee.

**7.8.7 Other committees as determined**

Trustee Sales suggested a Legal Search committee, which would be short-term while researching legal representation alternatives. Trustees' Hinde, Locatelli, and Sales all expressed interest in participating on the Legal Search committee. Trustee Sales also noted the importance of the Superintendent's relationship with legal counsel and the importance of including him in the process.

Trustee Locatelli indicated an interest in establishing a Constitution Day committee. Trustee Locatelli stated that each year all schools receiving federal funding are required to hold an educational program on the United States Constitution. Constitution Day is celebrated every year on or near September 17<sup>th</sup>, which is the anniversary of the signing of our country's founding document.

Trustee Levine stated that in his previous position as Newspaper and Education Coordinator at the Santa Cruz Sentinel that he has assembled information on Constitution Day and would like to participate on the Committee. President Marani also expressed interest in participating on the Constitution Day committee.

**8.0**     **CONSENT AGENDA**

Consent Agenda

It was M.S.C. (Winslow/Hinde) to approve the consent agenda as submitted.

**8.0.1**   Minutes of Board Meeting of November 18, 2010

**8.0.2**   Donations

**8.0.3**   Routine Budget Revisions

Ayes:           Unanimous

Abstain:       None

Absent:        None

**8.1**     **DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS**

Deferred Consent  
Items

There were no deferred consent items.

**9.0**     **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

**10.0**    **INFORMATIONAL: 2009-2010 FISCAL YEAR  
ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT**

Informational: 2009-  
2010 Fiscal Year  
Annual Audit Report

Associate Superintendent Hart and Tze-Ki Lam, Auditor, Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., provided the Board with notable facts and figures contained in the full Audit Report. Ms. Lam stated that the audit was conducted in accordance with government audit standards. Ms. Lam responded to questions and comments from Board trustees. Trustee Sales noted that there were no findings in the audit, for which the staff is to be commended.

**11.0**    **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to conduct.

**12.0**    **NEW BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS**

**12.1**    **Approval of 2011-2012 Budget  
Development Calendar**

Approval of 2011-2012  
Budget Dev. Calendar

Following review, it was M.S.C. (Sales/Dilles) to approve The 2011-2012 Budget Development Calendar as submitted.

Action# 819

Ayes:           Unanimous

Abstain:       None

Absent:        None

**12.2**    **Board Policy: Second Reading and Possible Adoption  
of Proposed Board Policy BP 5113.2, Work Permits**

Board Policy: Second  
Reading and Possible  
Adoption of Proposed  
Board Policy 5113.2  
Work Permits  
Action# 820

After further discussion, it was M.S.C. (Hinde/Sales) to adopt Board Policy BP 5113.2, Work Permits.

Ayes:           Unanimous

Abstain:       None

Absent:        None

**12.3 Board Nomination to CSBA Delegate Assembly**

Trustee Levine explained that the CSBA Delegate Assembly is a 270 member policy group that meets twice each year, once in Sacramento and once at the annual conference.

Board Nomination to CSBA Delegate Assembly

Ken Wagman, Santa Cruz City School Board member, stated that Rachel Dewey Thorsett had been nominated by

the Santa Cruz City School Board. George Wylie, San Lorenzo Valley School Board member, informed the Board that he had also been nominated to the Delegate Assembly by his Board.

After further discussion, it was M.S.C. (Levine/Hinde) to nominate both Rachel Dewey Thorsett and George Wylie to the CSBA Delegate Assembly.

Action# 821

Ayes: Dilles, Hinde, Levine, Locatelli, Marani,  
Winslow  
Noes: Sales  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**13.2 (OUT OF ORDER) Discussion: Consideration of Continued Participation in the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association**

The Board discussed their continued participation in the County School Boards Association (SCCSBA). Trustee Dilles questioned whether or not the SCCOE Board should continue membership.

Trustee Hinde stated that a portion of the area he represents includes the San Lorenzo Valley School District, who are not currently members of the SCCSBA. Trustee Hinde reported that San Lorenzo Valley trustees relayed to him that some of their reservations in joining the association, in part, is because SCCOE is a member. Trustee Hinde stated that if SCCOE were to withdraw its membership, San Lorenzo Valley may consider joining. He also noted that with the formation of a Superintendent/Board President committee there would still be opportunity for collaboration. Trustee Hinde stated that because of the oversight SCCOE has over districts, he would be in favor of SCCOE withdrawing its membership from the SCCSBA.

Trustee Levine stated that the only oversight of districts SCCOE has is budgetary, as the state requires. He opined that if SCCOE has contributions they should be permitted to participate. Mr. Levine stated that for SCCOE to withdraw in order for another district to join is inappropriate, and he believes that SCCOE should have a voice, even if others choose not to listen.

Trustee Sales concurred with Trustee Hinde, reporting that when the initial discussion arose regarding membership SCCOE

membership in the SCCSBA that he also spoke with district representatives who expressed reservations about joining the organization if SCCOE were to join. Mr. Sales stated he understood Trustee Levine's position, because SCCOE is here to help districts, but at the same time role of this Board is different than that of a school district. Trustee Sales continued that as we are entering very difficult budgetary times the SCCOE may be in the position to require districts to make budget cuts. Trustee Sales believes SCCOE should remain involved in the SCCSBA and continue to have a representative attend meetings so the SCCOE Board is informed, but that SCCOE should withdraw membership, which may encourage other districts to join. Mr. Sales stated that there are currently too many students unrepresented in the SCCSBA and it is important for the non-member districts to join.

Trustee Dilles stated that at times he sees tensions between school district Boards and the SCCOE Board. He stated that while, in an ideal world we would all work together, he is not certain SCCOE involvement helps and may even hinder. Mr. Dilles stated he is not certain that the SCCSBA has accomplished a lot, and would like the organization to be successful. He believes while it is generally good to be at the table, sometimes it seems to backfire.

President Marani thanked Trustee Dilles for spending the past year as the SCCOE representative, attending meetings, and reporting back to the Board. Trustee Marani concurred with Trustee Sales' remarks. He stated that if it is detrimental for SCCOE to be part of the SCCSBA, then it will not be able to fulfill its intended role in harmony. He continued that the Pajaro Valley School District are not members, and if SCCOE's withdrawal would encourage them to join, there is value there. Trustee Marani suggested that perhaps the best approach is for SCCOE to withdraw its membership.

Judy McGooden, President of the SCCSBA, stated that as an individual member she is ambivalent as to whether or not SCCOE is a member of the organization. Ms. McGooden stated that sometimes there is tension, and that may be alleviated if SCCOE withdraws.

George Wylie, San Lorenzo Valley (SLV) School Board member, stated that there have long been tension between the SLV Board and the SCCOE Board. He stated that while he believes relations are improving there is still tension. Mr. Wylie reported that he attends SCCSBA meeting, even though SLV is not a member, and is able to participate in the discussion, but not vote. Mr. Wylie encouraged the Board to withdraw membership from SCCSBA.

The Board ordered the matter of continued participation in the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association be added to the January Board agenda as an action item.

**12.4 Possible Adoption of Revised Santa Cruz County School Boards Association Bylaws**

It was M.S.C. (Sales/Winslow) to table the matter of possible adoption of SCCSBA Bylaws pending further discussion of SCCOE participation in the organization.

Ayes: Unanimous  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

Possible Adoption of Revised Santa Cruz County School Boards Association Bylaws

Action# 822

**13.0 REPORTS/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS**

**13.1 Discussion: CSBA Governance Workshops**

Trustee Dilles reported that the SCCSBA expressed an interest in SCCOE sponsored workshops for school district trustees. Allison Niday, a former Scotts Valley School Board member, submitted a proposal to Superintendent Watkin. After receiving input from district school boards, a revised proposal has been submitted to address desired trainings. Trustee Dilles reviewed the proposal, which would consist of three separate trainings, each three hours long. Proposed trainings are: Effective Governance; the Brown Act; and Superintendent Evaluation and Board Self Evaluation. The total cost of the revised proposal is \$9,000.

Trustee Dilles stated that, regardless of SCCOE participation in the SCCSBA organization, there is a need for county-wide trainings, and he believes that is SCCOE's role and responsibility.

Superintendent Watkins stated that he believes it is the role and responsibility of the County Superintendent to ensure there are effective trainings for district school board members. He supports the CSBA model proposed.

Rachel Dewey Thorsett, Santa Cruz City School Board Member stated that these trainings would be beneficial to school board members. Ms. Thorsett reported that while many district trustees had attended trainings, many had not. She also stated that, besides being cost effective, there is value in having all trustees attend the same trainings so all receive the same information. Ms. Thorsett continued that perhaps the most important training trustees could receive is on superintendent evaluation. She stated that this is a difficult part of a trustee's role, but also the most important.

Judy McGooden reiterated and supported Ms. Thorsett's in relation to superintendent evaluations.

President Marani stated he believed first training should be on The Brown Act, because it is important that trustees have

Discussion:  
CSBA: Governance Workshops



that information immediately.

Superintendent Watkins stated that SCCOE would move forward in organizing trainings, but wished to do so with Judy McGooden, President of the SCCSBA.

**13.2 Discussion: Consideration of Continued Participation in the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association**

This item was conducted out of order and previously recorded.

**13.3 First Interim Financial Report**

Mary Hart, Associate Superintendent, Business Services, reviewed the published First Interim Financial Report as provided in the packet. Ms. Hart responded to questions regarding administrative fees associated with special education.

First Interim  
Financial Report

**13.4 Santa Cruz County Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report**

Associate Superintendent Mary Hart reviewed the County Treasurer's Investment Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2010. The Santa Cruz County Office of Education maintains all its investments in the County Treasurer's Investment pool.

Santa Cruz County  
Treasurer's Quarterly

**13.5 California Employers' Retiree Benefit Trust Investment Report**

Associate Superintendent Mary Hart reviewed the report of investments for trust accounts annually. Since the SCCOE maintains all its retiree benefit funds in the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS).

California Employer's  
Retiree Benefit Trust

**13.6 Discussion: Board Retreat**

The Board discussed plans for an upcoming Board Retreat. Superintendent Watkins stated that it is valuable, especially for new Board members, to have a good understanding of the role of the County Office of Education and to gain an understanding of where we are headed programmatically. Superintendent Watkins proposed the retreat be planned in March. Staff will determine availability of facilities and report back to the Board.

Discussion: Board

**13.7 Superintendent's Report**

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 Superintendent Watkins 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**

Superintendent Watkins 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**

Mr. Watkins 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 Superintendent Watkins visited several Special Education and Alternative Education sites including Chrysalis, Del Mar Elementary, and Natural Bridges Green Careers High School. They 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**

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

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

Superintendent Watkins 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 Superintendent Watkins 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 Superintendent Watkins 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 Mr. Watkins 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> Superintendent Watkins 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**

Superintendent Watkins 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**

Superintendent Watkins 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 Mr. Watkins 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.

Superintendent Watkins commented on the SCCOE exploration of a virtual charter school. He stated that he believes this is a community issue not a SCCOE issue. He assured the audience that there would be opportunity for community input. Superintendent Watkins stated that as the fiscal crisis continues that he will be looking at innovative ways to meet the needs of students in the community.

Theresa Rouse, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services, stated that national Trends indicate that online learning is something that must be considered as an option and opportunity for students. She stated that college and career preparation programs and many universities require online programs. Ms. Rouse stated that online learning may not be appropriate for all students, but will address different ways children learn.

Santa Cruz City School Board member, Ken Wagman commented to the Board that school districts are in favor of on-line education, but expressed concern that the SCCOE

would syphon students if it were to start virtual charter school. He questioned whether or not students interested in virtual learning could be served by the school districts if they offered online learning.

Cathy Ritchie, San Lorenzo Valley (SLV) School District Trustee, stated that SLV already has a virtual high school. If students in the county need this type of school, it already exists, is profitable and has better test scores than what is being explored.

**13.8 Board Trustee Report (3 minutes each)**

Trustee Reports

Trustee Hinde reported that he attended the CSBA conference, where he saw Dr. Joseph Johnson speak on top performing schools that have high percentage of English learners in low income districts. Trustee Hinde will share notes from the presentation with trustees. He also met with four trustees in three districts on potential ways to collaborate.

Trustee Levine reported he attended the CSBA Delegate Assembly meeting in San Francisco.

Trustee Locatelli reported that she attended the Girls and Boys Club business partnership breakfast. Ms. Locatelli reported that she had been a Girls and Boys Club Board member for seven years. She also attended the New Board Member training at the CSBA conference and the Ceiba College Preparatory Academy Open House. Trustee Locatelli reported that she will participate in the Inside Education program. Ms. Locatelli is in her third month of classes on the United States Constitution in an effort to act as an ambassador and become educated on the subject to be of help. Ms. Locatelli also attended the Sons of Italy holiday dinner.

Trustee Winslow reported that he continues to deliver groceries to shut-in seniors. He also reported that he attended a Housing Authority meeting, where there is a list of approximately 5,000 residents waiting for housing with a waiting period of five to six years.

Trustee Dilles attended the Scotts Valley School District Board meeting to welcome new Board members. He also attended the CSBA conference, met with Allison Niday, and attended the PCS Liaison Committee meeting, where he noted PCS is looking for three new Board members, particularly someone knowledgeable in facilities. Trustee Dilles welcomed Gina Locatelli to the Board and offered any support she may need.

Trustee Sales attended the CSBA conference and felt the FCMAT session he attended would be of great value for others to see. He also attended the Pacific/Asian Islander breakfast at the CSBA conference. Trustee Sales attended Tony Campos' final meeting, which he reported was very moving. Mr. Sales met with Assemblyman Luis Alejo.

President Marani reported that he spent time with Trustee

Sales and Pajaro Valley Trustee, Willie Yahiro. He also attended the CSBA conference and CCBE. Mr. Marani reported he was invited to attend the swearing in of Scotts Valley Water District Board member. He attended a Kiwanis function, noting the great things service organizations do for schools. President Marani also met with County Supervisor Greg Caput, who plans to reduce his salary by twenty-five Percent and donate that portion to school athletic programs.

#### **14.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **14.1 Agenda Committee**

President Marani reported that the agenda committee meets monthly.

##### **14.2 Community Outreach and Legislative Committee**

Trustee Winslow reported that a number of measures Will be introduced into legislation and forwarded to Governor Brown.

##### **14.3 Policy Advisory Committee**

No report.

##### **14.4 Budget Committee**

No report.

##### **14.5 School Boards Association Report**

No report.

##### **14.6 Additions, if any, to Future Board Agenda Items**

The Board may give direction regarding placement of future Board agenda items.  
Request for additional items: Board President

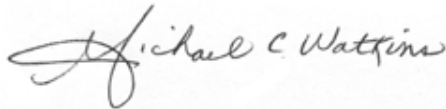
#### **15.0 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS and COMING EVENTS**

Thursday, January 20, 2011 2:00 p.m. (subject to determination during December annual organization meeting)	Regular Meeting of the County Board of Education Santa Cruz County Office of Education
February 2, 2011	County-wide School Boards Professional Development Dinner
February, 2011 (Date TBD)	Board Retreat
Thursday, February 17, 2011 2:00 p.m. (subject to determination during December annual organization meeting)	Regular Meeting of the County Board of Education Santa Cruz County Office of Education
Thursday, March 17, 2011 2:00 p.m. (subject to determination during December annual organization meeting.	Regular Meeting of the County Board of Education Santa Cruz County Office of Education

**16.0 ADJOURNMENT**

President Marani adjourned the meeting at 5:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael C. Watkins". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Michael C. Watkins  
Secretary to the Board  
Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools

/cmo