

Subject: Superintendent's Monthly Report to the Board – April 19, 2018

The following matters and events have occurred since the Report of March 15, 2018:

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES (WASC) VISIT

The Alternative Education Program was visited by the WASC Accreditation Committee from March 18, 2018 through March 21, 2018. During their three-day stay, the Committee visited all of our Alternative Education programs and gave a final presentation to the Alternative Education staff on their last day. The Committee was very impressed with the programs we provide to our students.

SANTA CRUZ SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR AWARDS

The Santa Cruz County Science and Engineering Fair Awards ceremony was held on March 19, 2018 at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium. This year over 400 students participated in the event that was held on March 10, 2018 at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds. The top senior division project winners, Elias Gilbert from Santa Cruz High School and Ryan Beam from Scotts Valley High School will represent Santa Cruz County at the International Science and Engineering Fair in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from May 13-18, 2018. 43 other winners will represent Santa Cruz County at the California State Science Fair in Los Angeles from April 23-24, 2018.

BIO-TECH DEBATE

On March 22, 2018, I attended a Bio-Tech debate at Harbor High School presented by Nehal Pfeiffer's (Teacher, Science & Engineering Fair) students. I was amazed at the enthusiasm and knowledge of the students and the camaraderie they have with each other and with their teacher.

TEACHER FAIR

The COE Human Resources Department held a Teacher Fair on Saturday, March 24, 2018 here at the COE. A majority of the school districts and charter schools attended the event in hope of recruiting teachers with a math and science background. Nearly 100 teacher applicants were at the event and many of those candidates were offered interviews and provisional contracts on-the-spot. In May, our Be-A-Teacher interns will have an opportunity to meet and interview with the district superintendents in order to hopefully secure a teaching opportunity here in the county.

ARTS EDUCATION CELEBRATION

I was asked to attend and speak at the Arts Education Celebration that was held at the Santa Cruz County Government Center on March 26, 2018. Mary Anne James, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services and Audrey Sirota, Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator were also in attendance for this very exciting evening centered on the arts. I spoke about the rights of all students to equity in arts learning.

NEW PVUSD CHIEF BUSINESS OFFICIAL

I was invited to meet the new Chief Business Official (CBO) for PVUSD, Joe Dominguez on April 9, 2018. Mr. Dominguez will oversee PVUSD's \$250 million budget, which covers 35 schools in addition to the Towers administration building. Mr. Dominguez attended Fresno State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in management and his MBA.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE DINNER

The COE hosted a Santa Cruz County School Board Trustee dinner on the evening of April 9, 2018. The keynote speaker for the evening was Marshall Tuck, candidate for California State Superintendent for Public Instruction. Approximately 70 school board trustees and superintendents from across the county attended the event and heard Mr. Tuck discuss his thoughts and ideas on the current status of public education in California.

HOME OWNERSHIP FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY TEACHERS AND EMPLOYEES

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education, along with Landed Inc. and the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County held a joint press conference at Santa Cruz High School on the morning of April 10, 2018. The purpose of the press conference was for the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County to announce the launch of its new \$500,000 investment in more affordable housing. Four local teachers have already had offers accepted on homes and received down payment assistance through Landed's program in Santa Cruz County.

COE ALL

On April 10, 2018, we held a COE All to discuss April as Child Abuse Prevention month. Cynthia Druley, Executive Director, CASA of Santa Cruz County, along with Marie Cubillas, Executive Director, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County sat on a panel along with COE employees Karina Mendez of Human Resources and Jenny Im from the Business Department to discuss the issue of child abuse and how these two programs strive to aid children who may find themselves in abusive situations. Both Ms. Mendez and Ms. Im are CASA volunteer advocates.

CALIFORNIA COLLABORATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE (CCEE)

I attended the most recent meeting of the CCEE on April 12, 2018 in Sacramento. Some of the items discussed during the meeting included the Executive Director Search and the CCEE budget for 2018-19.

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