Sep 12 - Members of our Career Technical Education Partnership Team promoting services at the Santa Cruz County Fair.

New Logo for the COE

Sep 15 - In conjunction with the release of our strategic plan, the COE is introducing a new logo to be included in all our branding materials. The logo offers a graphic representation of our commitment to connecting students and their families to their future, and connecting our many partners in our shared mission. The logo displays our commitment to equity and support for our diverse learning community. As a next step, we will soon be launching 6 forums to discuss our strategic plan with the community.

County Board Action

This month, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education will approve the following resolutions:

- Resolution #19-14 In Support of National Suicide Prevention Month
- Resolution #19-15 Regarding Sufficiency of Instructional Materials for all Santa Cruz COE Alternative Education Programs

To view all County Board of Education resolutions and other board meeting materials please visit http://sccoe.link/boardmaterials

A Commitment to Equity

Sep 11 - The COE Management team has begun working on an ongoing process to ensure that the COE keeps true to its commitment to equity. This work is being led by Debi Bodenheimber, Sage Leibenson, Melissa Roberts, Denise “Sony” Sanson, and Faris Sabbah.

Sep. 12 - Participating at the CCBE Conference in Monterey

Upcoming Events

- Sept 19 - County Board of Education Meeting
- Oct 2 - Science Fair Information Night
- Oct 5 - Central Coast Early Childhood Ed. Conf.
- Oct 5 - Queer, Trans, and Allied Summit
- Oct 12 - Diversity Center Cosmic Gala
- Oct 17 - County Board of Education Meeting
Division Updates

Student Support Services

The Student Support Services Department concluded a first year of work experience grant funding implementation from Bank Of America by placing 11 students from our BASTA, Teen Peer Court, Foster Youth and Homeless Services, as well as Alt Ed Programs, into paid positions with mentoring from their already established relationships with adults in those arenas. Each student worked up to 100 hours in fields of their interest. We hope to reapply next summer given its demand and success!

Alternative Education

Alternative Education has expanded its Oasis program to serve students on both Cabrillo campuses. Programming is A-G college focused and a number of students are already dual-enrolled with Cabrillo. We are focused at all of our schools this year on math and science, as well as on broadening the reach of restorative practices to all school sites.

Career Advancement Charter

The CAC started with an additional full-time employed teacher to meet projected student demand and added an ESL component to meet the needs of the students. At the new Probation Center site for Adults, the CAC is providing computer lab support and a High School Diploma Program. This program has also partnered with Digital Nest to provide a life skills and career exploration course that is technology-focused.

Cypress Charter

Cypress Charter is off to a strong start, providing college preparation in a supportive setting. Cypress now offers 6 advanced placement courses (3 more than last year), and has added statistics, speech and debate, and creative writing to their A-G approved courses. The staff and students of Cypress are both benefiting from the COE-provided technology upgrades and building repairs.

Also, the department received a surprise and welcomed donation from Lotus Management Inc., a hotel management firm based in San Jose with operations in Santa Cruz County. For their service work, the company decided to raise funds for, stuff, and deliver backpacks to our Write Start Backpack Project/ and Stuff the Bus Initiative. Their contribution, adding to our event in August, pushed us passed the 2,000 backpacks mark! A huge thanks to Lotus Management, Inc. and their very kind staff who came to the COE to deliver the items themselves.
Division Updates (cont.)

Special Education
Our fourteen regional special day classrooms located on eight school campuses are well underway! We’ve welcomed our returning students and staff and are getting to know our new students and employees. Our post-senior students are back at work at the COE, bringing smiles to everyone’s faces. We are looking for more and more opportunities to further expand student presence within the building. We also continue to expand external work-site opportunities for our students as well as more curriculum based instruction programs department wide.

Business Services
The Business Services Department is intricately involved in the Communications Committee, Technology Committee, Grant implementations, start of the school year assuring safe clean and funded projects year round. We welcome back the School staff (Certificated and Classified) new and returning as well as staff countywide. In addition, during the month of September all of our Countywide School Districts have received a letter approving both their budget and their LCAPs. We are now moving into the season of Audits.

Educational Services
Educational Services managers are preparing for a number of upcoming trainings to support teachers, sites, and districts with curriculum and instruction. The BaySci Teacher Leadership Institute continues with a follow up training day on September 14th, where teachers will continue their planning around the Next Generation Science Standards. The Multi-Lingual Network kicks off on September 25th, where teams of teachers and administrators from each school district will come together to focus on the EL Roadmap and best practices to support English Learners. Support for math will be delivered on September 26th, with follow up SVMI (Silicon Valley Math Initiative) training for Tk-12 teachers across the county. These are just a few of the trainings that Educational Services will be providing all year long.

Technology, Innovation, and Communications
The Tech+ Division is working to ensure all students, staff, and districts have access to technology and communication resources to innovate and stay up-to-date with the latest and greatest approaches. The team has been working on streamlining device deployment with device management systems. Using automated software (JAMF on iPads and Macs and SmartDeploy for PCs), new devices can now be set-up quicker and more efficiently than ever before. The team has also been looking at both COE events and external events that the COE should have a presence at. The team has requested volunteers to support these events such as science fair and Children’s Day in Watsonville and Santa Cruz. Finally, in order to create transparency around the work of the IT team, we celebrated IT Professionals Day on September 17th by opening up the Data Center for an open house and showing COE employees all the equipment that allows the COE to provide network connectivity, enterprise-level web filtering and internet service for districts, and application and database access along with many more services! The picture above shows a tour and how some items were labeled.

Human Resources
The Human Resources Department continues to recruit and process substitute teachers and instructional staff. It is a difficult and challenging task, but they continue to expand the outreach in hopes of recruiting and retaining these important temporary positions.