The following matters and events have occurred since the report of December 19, 2013:

**Superintendents Council**
I met with the Superintendent’s with Judge Heather Morse joining us as well, specifically to discuss Keeping Kids in School (KKIS) and Out of Court. A number of items were discussed such as: LCFF, LCAP, the newly-formed Statewide Special Education Task Force, Trauma Informed Care Trainings, the Governor’s 2014-15 Budget Proposal, a Grant Opportunity @ the STEM Zone @ AT&T Pebble Beach, a proposed visit by State Superintendent Tom Torlakson, and lastly there was a Presentation by the Makers Factory. I will be following up with a Board presentation on LCFF in February.

**California Collaborative on Educational Excellence**
I participated in a conference call to discuss CCSESA developing a Collaborative, which would, in conjunction with ACSA, submit a Proposal to appropriate $10 million in the current year. This could be very useful as LCAPs are developed and reviewed for the first time. Otherwise, risk losing it and having it roll into 2014-15. The Proposal would expedite the process and help structure the Collaborative in a manner that best supports county offices and school districts. The overall purpose as defined in law is to “advise and assist school districts, county superintendent of schools, and charter school in achieving the goals set forth in a local control and accountability plan…”

**Criminal Justice Council**
The Executive Board of the Criminal Justice Council met to discuss strategies on moving forward in 2014. Jo Ann Allen, Manager/Student Support Services, was selected as the Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Council.

**S4C Steering Committee**
I met with the Committee to discuss data collaborative updates; CalPASS, to preview a HS Graduate Profile draft; upcoming events such as a Samper 4th Grade experience, Middle Schools @ CSU visitation, and Nobel Laureate, Randy Schekman at the Mello Center. Randy is the brother of PVUSD Administrator, Murray Schekman.

**CCSESA Executive Committee**
The CCSESA Executive Committee held a conference call to plan the Quarterly Meeting to discuss: 2016 Slate of Steering Committee Chairs, Membership Database, State Budget Proposal, State Board Meeting and the LCAP Task Force.

**Ford & Bonilla**
Ryan Ford and Rolando Bonilla made a Presentation at the Manager’s Meeting on January 8 in order to assist our Managers in understanding the importance of engaging the media pro-actively. Ryan and Rolando have extensive experience in public relations, marketing and strategic planning. They were referred to me by Assemblyman, Mark Stone.
Centralized Resource Exchange
I participated in a Conference Call with Jason Borgen and Zak Ringelstein @ uClass, in regard to an initiative to join with San Mateo County and participate in a centralized resource exchange for all new Common Core materials created by teachers to share relevant resources, learning objects, lesson plans, and more. Being involved with this pilot would also provide teachers unlimited access to a comprehensive lesson plan database provided by uClass. All resources submitted by teachers can be categorized by standard, grade level, content area, and object type. This is a great opportunity for educators in Santa Cruz County as implementation of the Common Core begins.

Inside Education
The topic, “Charter Schools” began with a Presentation by me (attached) regarding Charter School Law, followed by questions and answers. The community members then made site visits to Ceiba College Preparatory Academy and Linscott Charter School. The meeting culminated in a Common Core presentation by Jason Tovani, SCCOE Coordinator/Curriculum & Instruction.

Keeping Kids in School Task Force
A meeting was held in Judge Heather Morse’s chambers with all the participants of the Keep Kids in School (KKIS) Initiative. It is a pro-active measure to address the issue of truancy in Santa Cruz County, with an overview of current truancy mediation and truancy prosecution processes.

Annual Report – Williams Legislation Update
The Santa Cruz County Office of Education will report the findings of visits and review of schools, pursuant to the Williams Settlement Legislation, to the Pajaro Valley Unified School District at their January 22nd meeting and will follow-up on any findings that must be rectified.

CAAASA 24th
I have been participating in planning the annual California Association of African American Superintendents and Administrators (CAAASA), which will be held at the Sheraton in Sacramento in March. Highlights of the conference are attached.

State Superintendent, Tom Torlakson
I have been in conversations with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson, in regard to a visit to Santa Cruz County. Looking to confirm a date in early March.

Soquel Union Elementary School District Petition for a Special Election
A one-time Soquel Union Elementary school board candidate filed a petition calling for a special election to nullify a board appointment. The elections department has verified that the petition contains the required number of signatures from registered voters to call an election. I will formally notify district officials that the provisional appointment of Amanda Jackson Miller must be vacated and the seat remains open until an election on June 3rd. California Education Code permits districts hold a regular election, as opposed to a costly special election, when one is scheduled within 150 days of the verification of a valid petition.

Monthly Meetings
Special Education Coordinating Agency Meeting
Migrant Head Start Videoconference Children’s Network
Criminal Justice Council S4C Steering Committee
CCSESA Executive Board  CCSESA Board of Directors
CCSESA Agenda Committee