Subject: Superintendent’s Monthly Report to the Board – April 21, 2016

The following matters and events have occurred since the Report of March 17, 2016:

**7th GRADE COLLEGE AND CAREER SUMMIT**

Six of our county middle schools attended the 7th grade College and Career Summit held at the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC) on March 18, 2016. The Summit allows the 7th graders to find connections to the school work they are doing now to future college and career possibilities. The Summit also helps them to gain an understanding of their college and career aspirations, confidence to achieve goals and specific steps for their pathway to success. By the time the students leave the campus, they hopefully reached a clearer sense of intention, a plan, options available to pay for college and excitement for their future.

**FOOD, WHAT?!**

On March 21, 2016, Doron Comerchero, founder and director of the Food What?! Farm invited me to visit their operation ahead of their spring internship program. This year, 56 new youths from Watsonville to Santa Cruz signed up for the Spring Internship Program. FoodWhat?! is a youth empowerment and food justice organization using food, through sustainable agriculture and health, as the vehicle for growing strong, healthy, and resilient teenagers. They partner with low-income and struggling youth to grow, cook, eat, and distribute healthy, sustainably-raised food and address food justice issues in the community. They inspire personal transformation by supporting teens in finding their voices and developing lasting confidence in themselves.

**2016 SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR AWARDS**

On March 22, 2016, I presented the 2016 Science & Engineering Fair Awards at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium. This year’s Fair was a huge success! Students throughout the county from grades K-12 participated in this year’s highly successful fair. This year 135 students were Science Fair award winners.

Benjamin Kolland was the 1st Overall Winner with his project - ARROW (Autonomous Rocket Return on Wings). He will be representing Santa Cruz County at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix, Arizona May 8-13, 2016. 52 students were selected to present their projects at the California State Science Fair, May 23-24, 2016, at the California Science Center in Los Angeles.

**SAVE OUR SHORES**

I met with Katherine O’Dea, Executive Director, Save Our Shores on March 22, 2016. Save Our Shores has three core initiatives: Plastic Pollution, Ocean Awareness, and Clean Boating. Today they focus on educating youth about our watersheds, tackling plastic pollution on our beaches and rivers, advocating for plastic-free communities and managing the Annual Coastal Cleanup Day in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties.
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP (CCP) MEETING

I attended the Community Corrections Partnership Meeting on March 23, 2016 here at the COE. The topics discussed during the meeting included AB109 Implementation, Outcomes, System-Wide evaluation and Treatment and Intervention for Service Providers; and approval of the CCP By-Laws draft. In addition, the Alternative Education Department has been awarded a $80,000.00 grant to provide educational services to three detention facilities in Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz Main Jail, Blaine Street Women’s Facility and the Rountree Medium Detention Facility).

PUBLIC INTERAGENCY DIALOG ON SCHOOL SAFETY

The COE hosted a public interagency dialog on school safety on March 24, 2016. 40 leaders from multiple State, County, City and Education attended the meeting which was centered on school safety and how the different agencies can best communicate and coordinate with each other in the case of an actual emergency. A follow-up meeting has been scheduled for May 19, 2016.

FOOTBALL POOL LUNCH

I celebrated with the members of the FOSTER ED/FYS FOOTBALL FANATICS (Michael Paynter, Kim Corneille, Caroline Currie, Erika Hernandez and Casey Shutte) for lunch at Hula Grill as they were the winners of the team competition in this year’s football pool!

COE ALL

We held our most recent COE All meeting on March 29th. We recognized multiple COE staff members for a job well done and ROP gave a wonderful presentation on their department (who they are, what they do and who they serve).

REGION 5 MEETING

The Region 5 Meeting was held on March 30, 2016 here at the COE. All of the Region 5 Superintendents and some of their senior staff were in attendance. During the meeting, we discussed the California Preschool Instructional Network (CPIN), Regional System of District and School Support (RSDSS), Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) and Title III (LEP).

KINSEY COLLECTION

I met with Peter McGettigan who is videographer at Community Television of Santa Cruz County. Mr. McGettigan is interested in producing a video concerning the Kinsey Collection which is on display at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History until May 26, 2016.

SANTA CRUZ MUSEUM OF ART & HISTORY (MAH)

Nina Simon, Executive Director of the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History and I met on March 31, 2016 to discuss the possibility of my applying to join the MAH Board. The Board is comprised of about 25 diverse community leaders who support the MAH in terms of governance, fundraising, and community ambassadorship. Trustees participate in board meetings every other month, and each trustee serves on a committee or gets involved with special projects. I will know more when the Board has its next meeting in June.
STUART FOUNDATION

The Stuart Foundation, based out of San Francisco, is dedicated to transforming the public education systems so that all youth can learn and achieve in school and life. Currently, three members of the COE staff (Mary Anne James, Denise Sanson and Martine Watkins) are attending a four-day conference at Seascape Beach Resort for Leadership for Learning in Today’s School Reality facilitated by Peter Senge and Robert Hanig.

CALIFORNIA COLLABORATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE (CCEE)

I attended the CCEE Meeting on April 7, 2016 in Sacramento. Topics discussed during the meeting included: The Executive Director’s Progress Report, the 2015-2016 CCEE Budget, the proposed CCEE preliminary budget through June 30, 2017, the 2014-2015 Financial Audit Report, the renewal of agreement with legal counsel through the 2016-2017 fiscal year, Board organizational structure and replacement of Board members, the Sobrato Early Academic Language Model (SEAL), a presentation on the literacy program at the Fresno COE, and Summer Matters. Our next meeting will be held on June 10, 2016.

SUPERINTENDENT’S COUNCIL MEETING

The Superintendent’s Council Meeting was held at the COE on April 14, 2016. Sujie Shin, Director, Research & Data Assessment and Josh Daniels, Director, Outreach & Communications from CCEE gave an in-depth presentation to the Council concerning the focus and timeline of CCEE initiatives.

Also discussed during the meeting were: Community Forum, Summary of LCAP Responses regarding math, Personnel Development Plan for summer 2016-2018 (Gates Grant), Countywide math data, Inside Ed, Keeping Kids in School (KKIS), School Attendance Review Board (SARB) and Admin Kickoff.

ADULT ED GRANT/CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION INCENTIVE GRANT (CTEIG)

I met with Mark Hodges, Senior Director, ROP, on April 14, 2016 to discuss how we can help the Districts prepare to create their career and college pathways through the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant (CTEIG).

SPRING 2016 SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY COHORT 1 CLASS

On April 15, 2016, I participated in a phone interview with Professor Brent Duckor with the College of Education at San Jose State University for his Cohort I Class. The class was particularly interested on alternatives to the CORE approach and what the views or direction the CCEE would take concerning CORE.
FUTURE READY SCHOOLS/TICAL

I met with Rowland Baker on April 18, 2016 concerning Future Ready Schools. Future Ready School’s mission it to make everywhere, all-the-time learning possible. While acknowledging the continuing need to provide greater equity of access to technology itself, the plan goes further to call upon all involved in American education to ensure equity of access to transformational learning experiences enabled by technology. The principles and examples provided in the plan align with Title IV A (Activities to Support the Effective Use of Technology) of the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015.

**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