Subject: Superintendent’s Monthly Report to the Board
April 18, 2013

The following matters and events have occurred since the report of March 21, 2012:

**Annual Science Fair**
Our students did an amazing job at the State Science Fair. With around forty entries, we had three first place finishers. (See attached document.) Thanks to Adam Wade, Ellen Hickey for all their hard and to Seagate Technology for their continued financial support.

**Inside Education**
On Wednesday, the Inside Education cohort visited our Post-Secondary program at Cabrillo College where our Special Education students that have graduated our regular programs and are between the ages of 18-22 attend Cabrillo classes. Upon their return to the office, Jason Borgen gave a presentation on TICAL – Technology Information Center for Administrative Leadership.

**Cultura Caliente! - Watsonville High Dance Troupe Performance**
I attended a performance presented by the Watsonville High Dance Club. The presentation was in celebration of the 10 year anniversary of Cultura Calienta! And their annual scholarship dance performance fundraiser. Performances ranged from break dancing to traditional dance performance and included performers of various ages. It was a very enjoyable evening.

**Santa Cruz County Child Welfare SIP Steering Committee**
I attended the annual SIP (System Improvement Plan) as a member of the oversight committee. We review the strategic plan and receive a report on the progress made in each area. The group is doing an outstanding job supporting the most vulnerable of our children. We are fortunate in this county to have dedicated individuals who are willing to give of their time to ensure that these children have every opportunity to succeed.

**Pacific Collegiate Charter School Meeting**
I met with Paul Rode, president, Board of Trustees and Simon Fletcher, Interim Principal to discuss facilities and transfer of leadership as they make their plans to find a new principal and a new school site.

**Region IV Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent’s Meeting**
Region IV (San Benito, Monterey, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz) superintendents and assistant superintendents met this past month to review collaborations, explore new collaborations and share other information to enable us all to do our jobs more efficiently and effectively.
Kindergarten Art Show
The annual Kindergarten Art Show was held in our office. Artwork was submitted by Ohlone, Freedom and Starlight Elementary Schools. A reception was held where I was honored to give the welcome and present each student with a ribbon declaring “I am an Artist.” It was delightful to see their awe and pleasure.

Global Leadership Summit
TICAL (Technology Information Center for Administrative Leadership) sponsored a free Global Leadership Summit – an online event from 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. featuring renowned experts in education including Dr. Yong Zhao, William Brennan, and Michael Fullan. Topics covered many areas of education from evaluation of teachers to online learning, and leadership skills. The event had 908 attendees with a total of 2,642 logins to sessions as each attendee logged into their sessions of choice.

BASTA Community Group Meeting
A meeting of law enforcement, educators and various community support group leaders was held to update everyone on the current status of youth and gang violence. They received updates from the North and South County Operational Teams, from the Criminal Justice Council, the District Attorney, and the Youth Gang Taskforce.

Francis “Frankie” Guzman – Hartman School
Bonnie Dankert, Resource Specialist Teacher, Hartman School at the Juvenile Hall arranged for Frankie Guzman, a 32 year-old-lawyer and recipient of the Soros Justice Fellowship to speak with a group of incarcerated youth. As a 15 year old, he stole a car and robbed a liquor store resulting in six years behind bars at a California Youth Authority. With this symbiotic relationship to the young people he was speaking with, he was able to relate to them. He spoke of turning his life around and putting himself through UCLA School of Law. He told them of how his focus in life is now fighting on behalf of each of them to find better alternatives and encouraging them to take control of their lives in order to have a better future.

Project Zero Classroom
I am working with Louise Music, Executive Director, Department of Integrated Learning at the Alameda County Office of Education to create a statewide Integrated Learning Initiative for 2014-15. The resulting institute would be based on the Project Zero Classroom and would be entitled “Inventing our Future.” I will be participating in the planning committee, encouraging others to participate and attend a leadership team attending an institute at Harvard this summer on Project Zero Classroom. For more information, you can go to http://www.gse.harvard.edu/ppe/programs/prek-12/portfolio/project-zero-classroom.html.

Leadership 3.0
I gave the welcome at the Leadership 3.0 Symposium. This symposium is sponsored by TICAL, ACSA (Association of California School Administrators), and CUE (Computer Using Educators. It is a three day symposium ‘for administrators, by administrators’ and covers many aspects of electronic use in education from understanding how electronic tools can help you do your job better to using technology more effectively in the classroom. This was the sixth year that the symposium was held with 250 attendees.
CCSESA Quarterly Meeting
The CCSESA Quarterly meeting was held the beginning of the week. We received legislative updates, various steering committee updates, as well as, a report from the California Department of Education. Presentations on Professional Learning Communities, Summer Matters Campaign, and a special presentation from the sponsoring county office of education rounded out the meeting. There is no further news on the Local Control Funding Formula until the Governor’s May Revise coming in late May. There is talk of hearings in the State Senate and Assembly on the new school funding formula.

Economic Vitality and Education
The Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County hosted a meeting to discuss Economic Vitality and Education in Santa Cruz County. I was asked to participate on a committee that was looking into what is currently going on in the county, who is currently working on these issues, what are other counties/cities doing in support of these issues and what are your ideas/contribution to forwarding this agenda for Santa Cruz County.

Breakfast Roundtable - Enid Lee
Enid Lee, educational consultant on equity issues of language, culture, and race and their roles in education and organizational development will be speaking with administrators this coming Friday at the Breakfast Roundtable taking place in the 399 annex conference room. The presentation begins at 8:00 a.m. and trustees are invited to attend. Please let Cindy or Brunella know if you are coming.

CAAASA (California Association of African American Superintendents and Administrators)
I met with members of the CAAASA to discuss changes to expulsion and suspension guidelines and the digital divide as it relates to students of color.

Superintendent Retreat
County superintendents will be meeting with members of cabinet and Educational Services department to discuss results of teacher staff development surveys, curriculum & instruction needs, identifying trends and priorities for professional development. This discussion will be the framework for the work of the Educational Services Division for the coming year.